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[WITH A SUPPLEMENT, FIVEPENCE.]

THE STATE OF PARTIES.

THE numbers of the majority which on Monday night defeated Mr. Disraeli's amendment prove that the financial policy of the Government as indicated in the Budget receives the support, not simply of the party politicians who make it a point to vote for the Government whether it be right or wrong, but of the plain, truth-loving men of both sides of the House. The opposition to the scheme or plan of Sir G. C. Lewis—though Mr. Gladstone does not approve of its being called a plan—was inconsistent and self-contradictory, and therefore valueless; and those who complained of it for taking off too much taxation, and those whose quarrel with it was that it took off too little, were alike powerless to suggest a better of their own. In fact, there was no other possible Budget even sketched in outline for the consideration of Parliament, and thus the Government had an advantage in the debate of which all the mere rhetoric in the world was unable to deprive them.

The division list shows some curious results, and a singular disintegration of parties. If it were strange to see Mr. Disraeli and Mr. Gladstone voting together, it was stranger still to see Mr. Milner Gibson, Mr. Cobden, and Mr. Sidney Herbert supporting them; and, perhaps, stranger than all the rest to see such different men as Sir John Tyrell and Mr.

Cardwell not only making hearty speeches but voting against them. Lord John Russell, though evidently not over well disposed in favour of the existing Ministry, gave them a speech which, if it helped them in some respects, damaged them in others—and a vote which helped to swell the majority with the names of those "pure" Whigs—sadly diminished in number—who still look up to him as their legitimate leader. Sir James Graham went with Mr. Disraeli and Mr. Gladstone; and to the same lobby proceeded Mr. Miall, Sir Joseph Paxton, and Mr. Warren. Never was there greater party confusion—but never did confusion lead to a clearer result, or one more easily to have been anticipated.

What effect will the triumph of the Government have on the newly-formed Coalition? Will Mr. Gladstone continue to work in a leash with Mr. Disraeli? or will he supersede him in the leadership of the Conservative party in the Lower House? Such are some of the questions which suggest themselves, and to which it is not very difficult to frame a reply. The very small, but somewhat over-clever, party of which Mr. Gladstone is the spokesman were known to be in an unhappy position long before the opening of the Session. But it is now abundantly evident that they have placed themselves in a worse. They hunger and thirst for office, and, in pursuit of it, have shown that they are not very hard to please as to the companionship into which they thrust themselves. Their coalition with the Liberals weakened the Liberal party more

than any circumstance within memory. But Lord Palmerston, having earnest work to do, succeeded in getting rid of them. It was well for his own fame and for the credit of the country that he did so. As soon as Lord Aberdeen, Mr. Sidney Herbert, Sir James Graham, Mr. Gladstone, and the Duke of Newcastle were relieved from the duties they had shown themselves so incompetent to perform, the war ceased to be mismanaged, national enthusiasm was restored, and public credit was placed on an enduring basis. But it is hard to convince some persons that they have mistaken their vocation or their position. Having the highest opinion of their own genius—a genius which at the best seems to be but a genius for word-splitting,—and unaware apparently of their ill favour with the country, the Peelites (why should the honourable name of Peel continue to be affixed to a party who have neither Peel's wisdom nor his high principle?), rejected by the Liberals, made up their minds during the last recess to offer their services to the Conservative party. The result has been as every one expected. Mr. Disraeli, seeking to strengthen his position, has weakened it; Mr. Gladstone and his followers have done him the same ill turn that they did to the Liberals—have brought discredit upon his leadership, and have tainted both him and Lord Derby by companionship powerless for good, but very potent for evil.

But, though the Government have gained a victory as regards the



YORK, IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—FROM AN ORIGINAL SKETCH.—(SEE PAGE 178.)



I judge, there are circumstances both in the temper of the country and in the feeling of Parliament which ought to warn a statesman so sagacious as the Prime Minister that he does not possess the unlimited confidence of the people, and that if he would retain power he must condescend to enunciate a policy. He was the man who, by universal consent, was designated as the fittest to vindicate the honour of the country and maintain its supremacy in arms at a time when the political horizon was heavy with the thunderclouds of foreign war. He has justified that confidence, and gained not only the respect of his contemporaries, but that place in history which is the best and greatest reward of patriotic statesmanship. But if he is to remain in power he must prove that he understands the wants of peace as well as the necessities of war, and that he has a wise domestic, as well as a dignified foreign, policy. As yet he has given no sufficient indication that such is the case, but seems, from many circumstances which his friends have observed with pain, to act as if the present moribund Parliament truly represented the state of public feeling, and as if the desire for Reform were as moribund as the Parliament. During the war his position was invulnerable; but, the war being over, he has descended to the level of less-gifted Ministers, and must meet the wishes of the country on many far greater questions than that of the Budget and the war ninepence—important as it is—or run the risk of being overthrown by men who may, perhaps, be his inferiors in genius, but who may chance to have the advantage over him in earnestness of purpose and true appreciation of the wants of the time. Hitherto it has been the unfortunate practice of successive Governments and Parliaments never to accede any great measure of reform, parliamentary, fiscal, or social, until the people were driven to the verge of revolution for want of it. There are many men yet amongst us in the prime of life who remember how narrowly the country escaped a protracted and sanguinary struggle at the time of the Reform agitation from 1830 to 1832. A still greater number are able to recall to mind the imminent danger in which all our institutions were placed by the dogged, obstinate, unreasoning refusal of the most powerful parties in the State to untax the bread of the people. Is the country always to run such risks? Is no reform ever to be granted except upon compulsion, and, as it were, at the pistol's mouth? The pitcher has gone often to the well, and has not yet been broken; but will it never break? The reasons alleged by Lord Palmerston and some of his supporters for refusing to consider a proposition of reform so temperate and safe as that introduced last week by Mr. Locke King, are the very reasons which should have induced him to entertain it. We say nothing of Sir Joshua Walmsley's motion, which was simply an absurdity, and as such was scouted by many good Reformers; but we do hope that Lord Palmerston and the other members of the present Ministry will seriously bethink themselves of the expediency—not to say the necessity—of devoting some portion of their attention to the question of Parliamentary Reform. If they do not, Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Disraeli are quite capable of taking the question out of their hands, and of turning it to account for the advantage of the country.

THE DIVISION ON THE BUDGET.

THE following analysis of the division-list on Mr. Disraeli's amendment, last Monday evening, will serve to show the strange way in which the various parties in the House were jumbled together on that occasion. Thirty-one Conservatives voted with Ministers, viz.:

W. Beckett	D. A. S. Davies	J. K. King	Colonel Smyth
T. Blakemore	W. Deedes	R. Knightley	R. Spooner
Marq. of Blandford	W. Denison	G. C. Leigh	W. Stuart
T. W. Bramston	Sir J. B. East	Lord G. Manners	J. M. Sutton
Lord H. Cholmondeley	T. H. Estcourt	J. Masterman	G. Tomline
C. R. Colville	T. Greene	C. A. Moody	J. Tollemache
Sir C. Coote	G. G. Harcourt	J. J. Richardson	Sir J. Tyrrell
	N. Kendall	W. M. Smith	W. Wyndham

On the other hand, besides the 171 Conservatives who voted for Mr. Disraeli's motion, there were found in the same lobby ten Peelites, viz.:

W. Gladstone	Sir J. Graham	Sidney Herbert	Lord Jermyn
Hon. A. Gordon	Sir W. Heathcote	Lord A. Hervey	R. Palmer
	R. Phillimore	G. Vernon	

Fourteen members of the Manchester school, viz.:

T. Barnes	J. Bell	E. Miall	G. Hadfield
J. Crook	S. Laing	J. Cheetham	J. Kershaw
R. Cobden	S. Locke	T. M. Gibson	J. B. Smith
	J. M. Murrough	J. L. Ricardo	

Four English Liberals, viz.:

W. S. Lindsay	Sir J. Paxton	J. A. Roebuck	W. Williams
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And seven Irish Liberals, viz.:

T. A. Bellew	G. Bowyer	R. Swift	T. Kennedy
E. M'Evoy	J. F. Maguire	T. Meagher	

The total number of members usually voting with Ministers who joined the Conservatives on Monday was 33; while 31 Conservatives deserted the Member for Bucks and voted with the Government.

CURIOUS SHROVE-TUESDAY CUSTOM.

THE ceremony of tossing the Pancake in the school-room of Westminster School took place on Tuesday. By a culpable aberration of the Calendar, Shrove Tuesday this year falls on a saint's day (St. Matthias), of course a whole holiday, and much of the fun was lost, which consists in the intrusion of the cook in the midst of school hours, and the hot haste with which the young gentlemen rush from Homer and Virgil to a scramble—from the proceedings of heathen deities to the pursuit of a modern edible in its travels from Pan to pancakes. Indeed, the important ceremonial would have been omitted altogether but for the discovery that the chief actor in the pantomime had a right to a certain *honorarium* by statute, and insisted on performing his part, school-day or holiday. Accordingly, after the Abbey service, many of the boys were present in the school-room, and the masters appeared in full canonicals. At twelve the verger entered, with his wand of office, and announced "the cook!" The gentleman in the white apron took one view of the high bar in the middle of the room, and tossed a pancake, a very hard one indeed, and suspiciously like a toasted crumpet, over it into the middle of about fifty boys, after which the farinaceous compound was, as might be expected, seen no more. All that was visible was the souffling and kicking; such as is generally confined to the outdoor amusement of football in one of those delightful stages of the game which are called "bullies" at Eton. The pancake after this must have been a delicate morsel to the happy winner of it.

At Eton, some of the upper boys used to write long copies of verses on this day, which were hung up on pegs round the College hall. In the sixteenth century they were originally confined to praise or dispraise of Bacchus, and the poem retained the name of "Bacchus" after the subject was changed. The football playing, thrashing the fat hen, and telling the curfew-bell, common in various parts of England not many years ago on this day, are mostly discontinued, and no longer form part of the "manners and customs of y^e Englyshe in y^e nine-teenth centurie."

The minutes of the commission for the establishment of a universal German commercial code are to be printed. An edition of 1000 copies will be published, in order to be presented to the various Governments, commercial bodies, and public libraries.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

My dear readers! I really don't know if you are much interested in the recital of the doings of the end of the Carnival, and all the turmoil and forced gaiety, and excitement, and eating, and drinking, and dressing, and dancing, and parading, and tomfoolery, got up for the occasion; I am not, but *que voulez vous?* My duty as chronicler of the events of the day calls upon me to relate what passes, in the hope it may amuse other people, quite independent of any amusement it may or may not afford me. In fact, there is nothing else to tell about, these junketings taking the place of all other occupations and interests, politics included, except when some of the papers civilly give each other the lie on the Anglo-Persian question, or hazard a few remarks on that of Neufchâtel, which nobody pays any attention to. Being at Rome, therefore, let us do as the Romans (of the fall?) do; and, as last week, follow the peregrinations of the Parisienne.

The last grand ball at the Tuileries was more than usually splendid. The Empress, whose dancing till a late hour with great animation seems to contradict a rumour which was becoming gretty general as to fresh prospects of an addition to the Imperial family, was dressed in pink crape, with a tunic of English point lace, the front of the corsage covered with emeralds and diamonds; the head-dress consisted of a diadem of emeralds and diamonds, with the back hair attached by, and falling in ringlets over, the comb. The dress, however, that perhaps attracted the greatest attention was that of the beautiful Comtesse Castiglione, consisting of a gown of red satin, covered with *bouillonnés* of red crape below, and a lace tunic above. The coiffure was composed of two red feathers, fastened in the middle at the point of the forehead, and turning backwards round the ears. This lady wore at the fancy ball of Mme. Walewska a costume yet more remarkable. The robe and corsage were of cloth of silver, the latter perfectly tight and considerably décolleté, with extremely short sleeves, and no ornament or trimming whatever, but a large diamond heart; the former displaying an under skirt looped up at one side, so as to display the ankle, round which a bracelet was clasped. On the head five diamond hearts were held together by an arrow transpiercing them, and a flowing veil completed the costume. At the ball at the Tuileries the dress and general appearance of the Duke of Brunswick attracted the attention of all beholders. He wore a tunic so covered with embroidery that the colour thereof was hardly to be discovered; red trousers, scarcely less embroidered; the cockade and epaulets of jewels that figured at the Exhibition, and fourteen orders in brilliants, seven at the right side, and as many at the left. An accident, in which a voltigeur of the Imperial Guard contrived, in waltzing, to let his partner fall on the knees of the Emperor, excited a good deal of confusion and merriment.

On Monday a soirée dansante took place at the Tuileries; and on Tuesday the gaieties of the Court circle wound up with a ball at the Princesse Mathilde's.

Among the most brilliant fêtes of the Carnival have been those of the Comte Duchâtel, in his hotel of the Rue de Varennes, attended chiefly by the Legitimists, Orleanists, Fusionists, and the members of the diplomacy; the Duchess d'Azès; and of Madame de Pontalba, whose hotel in the Faubourg St. Honoré is one of the finest and most magnificently furnished and decorated in Paris.

Of another order of fêtes has been the banquet of M. Millaud, the new chief proprietor of the *Presse*. Round the table were assembled the most complete collection probably that has ever been brought together of the notabilities of the French press—literary, dramatic, and journalist—amounting, with the addition of various artists, to about two hundred persons, dining and supping.

M. Mirès, the rival of M. Millaud in most of his speculations, got up on Sunday a *festin* of a similar description, but, like most *réchauffés*, it proved somewhat of a failure, like the feuilleton-letter addressed by the same personage to Alexandre Dumas *fils*, on the subject of his views on the question of financial speculations, as put forth in his new piece.

The following is said to be the intended itinerary of the Grand Duke Constantine. After quitting Nice he proposes to visit Marseilles and Toulon, where fêtes are to be given in his honour, and about the middle of April his arrival in Paris is expected.

Last week was celebrated, at the church of St. Louis en l'Île, the marriage of the Princess Ida Czartoryska with the Comte Jean Dzialinski. The service was performed by the Cardinal Donnet, and attended by the representatives of all the Polish families in Paris, as well as by Prince Lucien Murat, the Maréchaux Vaillant and Magnan, and various other personages of the day.

The French papers inform us that we have for some time been enjoying the most delightful spring weather—a fact of which we have only through their report been made aware. True, there has been no rain and a clear atmosphere for a considerable time; but, with the exception of about three days last week, the temperature has been thoroughly wintry, necessitating every protection against the cold as much as during any but the very severest portion of January. This may be seasonable enough as yet, but it certainly is not spring-like.

Further reports are going about respecting the probabilities of the Coronation, and the Pope's arrival for the ceremony in August. This story, however, has so often been spread and come to nothing that little attention is excited thereby; we therefore merely mention it *en passant*.

SETTLEMENT OF THE PERSIAN QUESTION.

The settlement of the Persian quarrel has been so often announced and so often contradicted that any report on the subject must be accepted with caution. It is, however, once more affirmed that there is every probability of an arrangement satisfactory to both parties. The draught of a convention relating to the points in dispute was forwarded from Paris to London on Tuesday. According to this account the islands of Karak and Ormuz will be ceded to the English, who will evacuate Bushire, while the Persians will, in turn, give up Herat. The dismissal of the Shah's Prime Minister will not be insisted upon, nor also the other demand relative to the manner in which Mr. Murray is to be received at Teheran, and which was considered derogatory to the Shah's dignity. It is added that Persia has agreed to receive Consuls in those places where Russian Consuls are established.

The Paris correspondent of the *Times*, writing on Wednesday, says:—I believe that Colonel Ouseley has not yet left Paris; but his departure is said to be fixed for this evening or to-morrow. On the Persian question I can only add that, as I am informed, the articles of the proposed convention with England specify that the latter Power shall henceforth be treated as the most favoured nation—that is, as Russia, with respect to commercial advantages; and, moreover, that she shall have a right to found an establishment in the Isle of Karak and another in Ormuz. These conditions would appear to be independent of the evacuation of Herat by the Persians, and the abandonment of Bushire by the English. The English Government had demanded the right to appoint a Consul at Balfush, a port of the Mazanderan on the Caspian Sea; but the Persian Envoy alleged that the existing treaties with Russia contain a clause prohibiting foreign diplomatic agents from residing on the shores of that sea, and no other foreign Power has an agent there. But it may enjoy the right of having Consuls on several specified points in the interior of Persia, and on the shore of the Persian Gulf. If the conditions to be

submitted to the English Government be accepted, Ferouk Khan will probably go to London, merely for the ratification of the treaty between us and Persia.

AMERICA.

The screw-steamer, *Alps*, arrived at Liverpool on Thursday, having left New York on the 14th inst. The newspapers are full of accounts of the disastrous consequences resulting from the freshets by which the late snowstorm was followed. The *New York Herald* of the 10th inst. says:—

Several of the principal railroad lines converging at this city have had their trains impeded by the freshets; and with at least two of them it will be three or four days before there can be anything like regularity in their departures and arrivals.

All the express trains on the Erie Railroad were stopped yesterday, nor will they run again for a day or two to come. The Cincinnati and emigrant trains due in this city on Sunday night arrived in time; but reported all the creeks on the route very much swollen, and the Delaware river several feet higher than usual. During the night the telegraph line was broken down, and all connection beyond Narrowsburgh stopped. It was found that the bridge across the Delaware at that point was broken down, and that it would be impossible to repair it for at least forty-eight hours. It seems that the ice had piled at Colchester so as to dam up the waters, which had formed in vast quantities from the melted snow. At length it broke away and carried a turnpike bridge with it, and in its course a portion of the Narrowsburgh Bridge was taken with it. Great injury was done to all the adjoining low country. Narrowsburgh is about 120 miles from Jersey city. The express train which left this city at half-past six a.m. yesterday was telegraphed at Port Jarvis to return, and all the passengers were brought back free of charge. It is not likely any of the trains will get all the way through for a day or two. It is as yet unknown what damage may have been done to the road beyond Narrowsburgh.

"ALBANY, Feb. 9.

"As was anticipated yesterday, the tremendous flood of last night occasioned damage to an amount impossible at present to conjecture, but which cannot fail to reach 2,000,000 dollars. All last night the city was the scene of the utmost confusion and excitement, the terrors of fire and water being let loose upon the inhabitants. The citizens were engaged all last evening on the docks and in the lower part of the city in removing goods, and stowing them away in the second stories of stores and buildings, where it was thought the flood would not reach; but these calculations proved erroneous. About half-past ten o'clock the ice commenced moving in the river with tremendous force, threatening the bridge on State-street for some time. The water rose so rapidly that all those working on the docks and piers were compelled to make a hasty retreat. The water in the river continued rising until five o'clock this morning, when it reached a point three feet higher than was ever known before. The entire lower part of the city is flooded as high as Green-street. The water flowed through Broadway from the Exchange to the Delavan House, flooding the stores and filling the cellars on the west side. The streets between Broadway and the river are navigable by boats. When the great flood commenced it was about two o'clock in the morning, and the water rose six inches in five minutes. Persons who had retired to bed, thinking themselves safe, were aroused by horsemen, who had ridden through the water, knocking at the doors of houses to arouse the sleepers to a sense of their danger."

The proceedings of Congress on the 9th inst. were exciting and important. The Senate was pretty thoroughly stirred up upon the question of the admission of the newly-admitted Senator from Indiana, Mr. Fitch. The Republicans, backed by a protest signed by a majority of the Indiana State Senators, declaring the election unconstitutional, stoutly opposed the motion to admit. The Democrats, acting upon precedent, proposed to qualify the applicant, and try the case afterwards, and they carried their point. The House passed the appropriation for a wagon road to California. The resolution directing the impeachment of Judge Watrous, of Texas, was discussed, and laid aside for two weeks. The Corruption Committee reported in favour of releasing Mr. Simonton from custody, he having satisfactorily answered the questions of the Committee, and the recommendation was adopted. Pending the consideration of the bill revising the revenue laws the House adjourned.

THE OVERLAND MAIL.

The steamer *America* arrived at Trieste at half-past six on Wednesday morning. The India mails arrived at that port with advices from Hong-Kong to Jan. 15; Calcutta, Jan. 24; Madras, Jan. 27; Ceylon, Feb. 1; and Bombay, Feb. 2.

There is no change in the position of affairs in China. The Chinese made an unsuccessful attempt to retake Tee-Totum Fort. The Europeans on board the steamer *Thistle*, in all eleven persons, were treacherously murdered by "braves" in disguise among the native passengers. The steamer was carried off, and abandoned after being dismantled. The Government of Hong-Kong has increased the police force, and taken precautionary measures against incendiarism.

Total exports of tea to Great Britain, about 41,000,000 lb., against 54,000,000 last year.

Intelligence from Bushire to the 17th of January states that the troops were still unmolested by the enemy. An attack had been made by detachments of cavalry and horse artillery on a depot of Persian stores and ammunition, twenty-two miles from the camp, and the object attained without loss.

A dispatch of reinforcements from India to Persia had commenced.

THE WEATHER.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE CAMBRIDGE OBSERVATORY, FOR THE WEEK ENDING FEB. 25, 1857.

Day.	Barometer at 9 A.M. 33 feet above level of sea, and reduced.	Highest Temperature.	Lowest Temperature.	Adopted Mean Temperature.	Dry Bulb at 9 A.M.	Wet Bulb at 9 A.M.	Dry Bulb at 3 P.M.	Wet Bulb at 3 P.M.	Direction of Wind.	Amount of Cloud (0-10).	Rain in inches.
Feb. 19	30.129	44.4	37.3	41.4	42.3	42.3	44.2	43.5	N.W.	10	0.000
" 20	30.203	47.7	37.6	42.8	42.4	42.1	46.8	45.2	S.	10	0.025
" 21	30.287	48.2	28.7	40.5	38.5	38.3	47.7	45.4	S.	10	0.007
" 22	30.268	52.0	36.4	45.6	44.4	42.1	51.4	47.0	S.	5	0.000
" 23	30.310	52.9	30.2	42.4	39.3	38.6	49.7	47.0	W.	3	0.000
" 24	30.297	47.3	31.3	39.7	35.8	35.5	47.2	44.2	S.E.	0	0.000
" 25	30.192	46.2	26.3	37.2	34.2	34.1	44.4	42.7	W.S.W.	3	0.031
Means	30.241	48.4	32.5	41.4	39.6	39.0	47.3	45.0			0.063

The range of temperature during the week was 26.6 degrees.

Dense fog prevailed throughout the day and night of the 19th, and on the morning of the 20th; and it was likewise very misty on the morning of the 25th. The weather has been generally fine and the sky clear since the 22nd; and the zodiacal light was noticed on the evenings of the 20th, 23rd, and 24th.

Hoar-frost was noticed on the night of the 20th, and on the mornings of the 23rd, 24th, and 25th. A little rain fell at 2.30 p.m. of the 20th, at 10h. a.m. of the 21st, and between 7h. and 10h. p.m. of the 25th, but on the latter occasion the sky became clear at midnight.

A splendid meteor was seen at 11h. 20m. p.m. of the 22nd, almost due south, but was only visible for about two seconds, when it fell into fragments and disappeared. Another, as bright as Sirius, was seen at 8h. 10m. p.m. of the 20th, to the east of Alpha Hydræ. J. BREEN.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE KEW OBSERVATORY OF THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

Lat. 51° 28' 6" N.; Long. 0° 18' 47" W.; Height above sea 34 feet.

DAY.	DAILY MEANS OF					THERMOMETER.		WIND.		RAIN in 24 hours, Read at 10 A.M.
	Barometer Corrected.	Temperature of the Air.	Dew Point.	Relative Humidity.	Amount of Cloud.	Minimum read at 10 A.M.	Maximum read at 10 P.M.	General Direction.	Movement in 24 hours.	
Feb. 18	30.021	44.7	41.3	89	9	37.9	52.1	S.	152	0.000
" 19	30.126	43.3	40.3	90	10	39.3	47.2	N. E.	75	0.000
" 20	30.202	42.9	38.3	85	5	35.3	49.8	SSE. SW.	128	0.000
" 21	30.310	45.3	40.3	84	8	33.8	50.4	SSW.	286	0.005
" 22	30.251	46.0	38.1	76	3	39.4	52.3	SSW.	266	0.000
" 23	30.297	46.5	37.4	80	5	31.9	49.7	N. ENE.	84	0.000
" 24	30.231	41.7	36.4	83	5	29.7	51.8	E.	182	0.000

ERRATUM.—Feb. 16, Maximum Thermometer: for 32.9 read 52.9.

The daily means are obtained from observations made at 6h. and 10h. a.m., and 2h., 6h., and 10h. p.m. on each day, except Sunday, when the first observation is omitted. The corrections for diurnal variation are taken from the Tables of Mr. Glaisher. The "Dew-point" and "Relative Humidity" are calculated from observations of the dry and wet bulb thermometers, by Dr. Apjohn's Formula and Dalton's Tables of the Tension of Vapour. The movement of the wind is given by a self-recording Robinson's Anemometer, the amount stated for each day being that registered from midnight to midnight.

SKETCHES IN PARLIAMENT.

A FIRST-CLASS debate in the House of Lords is usually as uniform in its inception and its conduct as the field-days at Aldershot. The manner of the proceeding is generally thus:—The Earl of Derby or Lord Lyndhurst one evening asks Lord Clarendon for the production of certain papers; and, when they are laid on the table, the noble Lord who intends to move in the matter gives notice that he will, on a future day, call attention to the subject; and the notice duly appears day after day in their Lordships' minutes, with the words "no day named" attached to them. After the lapse of perhaps a week the formal terms of the motion find their way into the Order Book, and in a day or two afterwards the actual evening of debate is fixed. About three weeks is ordinarily occupied in the process of incubation of a full-dress discussion in the Upper House. Such discussions, therefore, are comparatively few and far between. A sitting from five o'clock until it is time to go to dinner is the normal disposition of their Lordships. In the present Session, however, they have shown a tendency to loquacity, which seems rather to increase than to diminish, and, in the present week, their exertions have been consecutively wonderful.

On Monday there was every necessary preparation for the Lords to have a long night—that is, a sitting till ten o'clock—for the Lord Chancellor was to bring on one of his vexed measures of Legal Reform—*lucus a non lucendo*—the phrase is trite, but apt; and those Peers who are familiarly called "Law Lords" are famous continuers in debate, especially when it is their province to fall foul of each other. In this case, however, their unanimity is wonderful in a desire to hunt the Lord Chancellor, principally because he has been the means of introducing into the House an old colleague of his on the judicial Bench, in the person of Lord Wensleydale, who is likely to disturb the monopoly of legal discussion which has hitherto been enjoyed by my Lords Lyndhurst, Brougham, Campbell, and St. Leonards. Accordingly, three of these Peers were duly arrayed on Monday to scarify the bill of the noble and learned Lord on the Woolsack. There was Lord Lyndhurst, still making men wonder at a triumph of intellect over physical decay which has been paralleled perhaps only by Talleyrand. Lord Campbell came to throw his last stone at his noble and learned friend before he went the circuit; and Lord St. Leonards came specially to the House, for the first time this Session. If they came, as is their custom, on evil deeds of opposition to the Chancellor intent, they must have soon felt their combativeness melting away before the really melancholy mess which the Keeper of the Great Seal was making of the business. Lord Cranworth is a fluent speaker; and in delivering judgments in his courts he is tolerably clear, and even sequential; but on this occasion, such a specimen of the incoherent, the rambling, and the repetitious, and, in short, of that peculiar system of dialectics of which Mrs. Nickleby was a chief professor, has seldom been heard. All the Peers naturally went to hear the end of Mr. Disraeli's speech in the Commons, and remained to listen to the whole of Mr. Gladstone's—leaving the second estate of the realm represented by that curious average, stated by Lord Lyndhurst, of a third of a Peer to each of the few benches which are usually occupied in that House. No wonder the "old man eloquent" disdained to speak to such an audience, and the sitting concluded derisively.

The next evening was Lord Derby's first night this season. The question was China; the association with tea was obvious, and the attendance of ladies in great numbers was therefore appropriate. By-the-by, Lady Palmerston had a "Thé Dansante" on that very evening. It is not to be denied that Lord Lyndhurst "draws" better than Lord Derby; and Lord Ellenborough has filled the galleries better than either of them before now. But certainly the noble Earl had every reason to be satisfied with the number and the aspect of his audience. There were quite enough bonnets in the side galleries and in the boxes below the bar to create that unpleasant bashfulness in the more youthful orators of the House of which Lord Redesdale complains—hardly from any personal feelings of his own. The Corps Diplomatique were well represented too; Mr. Dallas, as usual, taking advantage of any opportunity of spending his evenings in watching the legislative doings of the Britishers. As the House of Commons was employed in considering whether the British Constitution should be referred to a Select Committee, of course the places appropriated to members of the Lower House were inconveniently crowded; while the steps of the throne were peopled as thickly as the steps leading to St. James's-park were on the day of the Duke of Wellington's funeral. Mr. Disraeli and Lord Stanley were conspicuous there as listeners to the eloquence of their chief and sire; while Mr. Labouchere watched the case on the part of the Government.

The audience was therefore both fit and full. And no doubt Lord Derby made a great speech; but it was not a speech such as one likes or expects from him. It is pleasant and exciting to listen to the ceaseless rush of his declamation, to those grand sentences five minutes long, in which the verb and the nominative case always preserve their due equilibrium, and which are always rounded with a flowing period. It is agreeable to hear his dashes of sarcasm, his flights of humour, never too high; the humour of a joker of jokes; his splendid fallacies, his daring assertions, and sometimes even his bitter invective. Now, the other night all this was not as usual continuous and rapid; with the vigour and the earnestness neutralising the somewhat monotonous shrillness of the voice, and the angularity of the gesture and attitude; but it was broken by the reading of long extracts from Blue-books, which, to say the truth, went very near to justify the application of Sir J. Graham's phrase of "pottering;" for he it observed that Lord Derby grows dimmer of eye than one likes to mention, that time has much "thinned his flowing hair," and that he exhibited a sign of physical weakness, not noticed in him hitherto, of taking many glasses of water during his speech. The consequence was that the oration halted, and grew cold; and very few of the large audience remained to the end of the third hour which it occupied to hear the elaborate peroration which caused the adjournment of the debate (most unconstitutional proceeding in the Upper House), in order that the Bishop of Oxford might have an opportunity of answering its glowing appeal, on behalf of the Chinese, to the right reverend bench.

It is well known that the Duke of Argyll believes it is his mission to crush Lord Derby, and in this case he did his possible; but what that is one had rather be excused from describing. And, though Lord Grey speaks things which are suggestive enough, somehow no one delights to listen to him. Altogether this was not the best specimen of great nights in the Lords that we have ere now witnessed.

WILLS.—The will of the Hon. Sir Edward Hall (Baron Alderson), was proved under £60,000.—Sir William Lewis Salisbury Trevelyan, Bart., of Cornwall, £4000.—The Dowager Countess of Carhampton's will has just been proved in London.—Edward Crossdale, Esq., M.D., late of Boulogne, £25,000.—Daniel Chambers Mackright, Esq., M.D., of Jersey, £2000.—Henry Waterland Root, Esq., of Lincoln, £10,000.—William Todd, Esq., of Barnsbury-park, £20,000.

WRECK OF THE PENINSULAR STEAMER "MADRID."—A telegraphic message was received on Thursday morning to the effect that the steamer *Madrid*, conveying the outward mails struck on a rock at the entrance of the port of Vigo on the 20th inst. All on board were saved.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

(Continued from page 193.)

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

IRISH SEA-COAST FISHERIES BILL.

On the motion for the second reading of the Irish Sea-coast Fisheries Bill. The ATTORNEY-GENERAL for IRELAND opposed the bill as setting at naught the regulations established for the protection of the fishermen, and as calculated to destroy the fisheries. The bill did not materially differ from that which the House rejected last year, and he hoped members would not change their opinion.

Mr. KENNEDY supported the bill, which he said would only place Irish fishermen in the same position as their English brethren.

Mr. NAPIER contended that the measure would not effect its object. Its provisions seemed only intended to benefit the Wexford coast; it would not apply to the rest of Ireland.

After some further conversation, in which Mr. Meagher and Mr. Bowyer supported the bill, while Colonel Dunne, Lord Naas, Mr. Bellew, and Mr. George Butt opposed it.

Mr. M. MAHON replied; after which the House divided, and the second reading was rejected by a majority of 185 to 10.

JUDGMENTS EXECUTION BILL.

The House then went into Committee on the Judgments Execution Bill. On the first clause.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL for IRELAND moved an amendment, that, on asking one Court to enforce the judgment of another, that Court should be provided with a copy of the judgment instead of a memorial.

Mr. CRAWFORD strongly opposed this amendment, as destructive of the principle of the bill.

After some discussion the amendment was agreed to by a majority of 99 to 77.

Mr. CRAWFORD then moved to report progress, that he might have time to consider whether it was worth going further with the bill.

The motion was agreed to, and the House resumed.

The Commons Inclosure Bill was read a third time.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL for IRELAND obtained leave to bring in a Bill to Consolidate and Amend the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Laws in Ireland.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

On the motion of Lord CAMPBELL it was agreed upon that a Select Committee should be appointed to inquire into the state of the law in respect to the publication of the proceedings of Parliament, of Convocation, and of public meetings generally, and to report thereon to the House. The Supplemental Health of Towns Bill was read a second time.

THE WAR IN CHINA.

The adjourned debate upon this subject was resumed by the Earl of CARNARVON, who contended with much ability that the *lorcha Arrow* was, to all intents and purposes, a Chinese vessel, and, therefore, that the war against Canton was wholly unjustifiable.

Lord METHUEN defended the conduct of the British authorities at Canton, as well as that of the Government, on this subject.

Lord ST. LEONARDS condemned the affair at Canton as illegal and unjustifiable, and supported the resolutions of the Earl of Derby. The noble and learned Lord confined himself almost exclusively to a legal argument, which he urged with the view of showing that the *lorcha* was to all intents and purposes a Chinese vessel.

Lord WENSLEYDALE also confined himself to a legal argument proving that she was really a British vessel.

The Earl of MALMESBURY deprecated the whole proceedings against the Chinese authorities as immoral, impolitic, and unjust.

The Earl of ALBEMARLE drew a distinction between a junk and the *lorcha* in question, for the purpose of showing that the Chinese could not have made a mistake in the matter; but must have very well known that they were guilty of a most unjustifiable act when they boarded the *Arrow*.

The Earl GRANVILLE justified the conduct of the British authorities at Canton.

The Bishop of OXFORD found fault with the Government in a speech that excited considerable attention.

Their Lordships then divided. The numbers were—

For the Earl of Derby's resolutions:—			
Contents, Present	..	..	53
Proxies	..	..	57
			—110
Non-contents, Present	..	..	71
Proxies	..	..	75
			—146
Majority for the Government	..	..	36

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

NEW MEMBER.—Mr. Rebow took the oath and his seat for Colchester in the room of Lord John Manners.

DISEASES OF CATTLE.—Mr. LOWE, in reply to Mr. A. Stafford, said, in consequence of the murrain amongst the cattle on the Continent, the Board of Trade had requested Consuls at foreign ports to furnish every information possible on the subject; and had also communicated with the Customs authorities that the latter might, by the exercise of their powers, prevent the importation of diseased cattle into this country, in consequence of which one animal had been seized and killed immediately upon its arrival here.

THE BUDGET.—Mr. GLADSTONE gave notice that he should move his amendment on the Tea and Sugar Duties in Committee of Ways and Means, instead of upon the motion for going into Committee, as he had originally intended.

THE CHINESE WAR.

Mr. COBDEN, pursuant to notice, rose to move the following resolution:—"That this House has heard with concern of the conflicts which have occurred between the British and Chinese authorities in the Canton river; and, without expressing an opinion as to the extent to which the Government of China may have afforded this country cause of complaint respecting the non-fulfilment of the Treaty of 1842, this House considers that the papers which have been laid upon the table fail to establish satisfactory grounds for the violent measures resorted to at Canton, in the late affair of the *Arrow*; and that a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into the state of our commercial relations with China." The hon. member said he brought the subject before the House with no feeling of personal hostility towards the Government, whose feelings, on the contrary, he would have been glad to spare, if he could have done so consistently with his duty. He had brought the subject before the House in order that it might be known that we were at war, with whom the war originated, and that the whole affair might be thoroughly sifted, not from any feeling toward the Chinese, but for the vindication of the national honour (Hear, hear). And he asked the House to deal fairly with the question, and not consider it simply as a dispute between a strong Power and a weak one. He had observed with regret that there had lately been two politics in the House—one towards a strong Power, and another towards a weak Power. As the House was aware, the dispute had ostensibly originated in the boarding of the *lorcha Arrow* by the Chinese, it being contended by Sir John Bowring that that vessel was in reality British, sailing under the British flag. Lord Lyndhurst, however, whose knowledge of international law no one could question, said the *Arrow* was entirely Chinese. In his (Mr. Cobden's) opinion, the letter written home by Sir John Bowring was the most flagitious public document ever published. But even admitting that the *lorcha* register was all in order, how would such a dispute have been settled with a strong Power? Some time ago a coloured seaman, a subject of Britain, and the English Consul, instead of ordering Charleston to be bombarded, wrote to Washington; and, communications being opened with the American Government, the dispute was settled in an amicable manner, and in a way which ought to have been adopted at Canton with the Chinese. No attempt had been made to show that in boarding the *lorcha* while the British flag was flying, the Chinese had wilfully insulted this country. But it was contended by the Chinese that no such flag was flying; and even if it were those who were conversant with Chinese affairs would know that there was no real intention of insult; and it was clear from the correspondence that had been published that, while on the side of the Chinese there were courtesy, submission, and forbearance, on the other side there were arrogance and presumption, with a preconceived design to pick a quarrel (Hear, hear). But it was said that the English subjects, as well as the French and Americans, had not been properly treated in Canton for some years, and that the condition of the last treaty had not been observed by the Chinese. If this were true why had not the English Government interfered before, instead of letting the nation drift into a war upon a question in which it was most decidedly in the wrong? A Blue-book had just been published containing correspondence about "insults from China," but the cases adduced were of the most trumpery character, and it was an insult to the country to produce that book for the purpose of making out a case against China. With regard to the question of access, there was no other great empire where trade was so thoroughly free as in China; and no other places where vessels were so rapidly loaded or unloaded, or at so small an expense, or where the port dues were lower than at Canton; and he only wished that, instead of five such ports, there was only one port in France, in Austria, and in Russia under equally favourable circumstances. The Chinese authorities alleged that they could not carry out the clause of the treaty for allowing free and unrestricted access to Canton for foreigners, and he believed that that allegation was made in good faith, as the inhabitants of that part of China were exceedingly ferocious and averse to foreign intercourse—a feeling which must be considerably augmented by the

recent proceedings of the British Admiral. The House had to deal with a representative of the Government who had not only violated international law, but who had received specific instructions from Lord Malmesbury and Lord Grey not to commit any hostile act without authority from home. He (Mr. Cobden) could hardly resist the impression that, since the present Government entered upon office, something had passed which gave an impression to Sir John Bowring that, if he plunged into hostility with China, he would be upheld by the Foreign office. The bombardment of Canton would, he feared, materially interfere with the extension of commerce in that quarter for some time to come; and the war, if continued, would probably produce complicated relations with other countries, and especially with America. In conclusion, he moved his resolution, and left the matter in the hands of the people and their representatives (Loud cheers).

Mr. LABOUCHERE contended that no blame attached to the British local authorities for what had happened, and that the Government would have acted like traitors to their country if they had failed to support those officers in the faithful discharge of their duty. The course taken by Sir J. Bowring had the approval both of the American and French Consuls and residents.

Sir E. B. LYTTON concurred in the motion of Mr. Cobden.

Mr. L. DAVIES and Sir J. RAMSDEN severally supported the Government.

Sir T. HERBERT expressed his surprise that an attack upon a city containing 1,500,000 of inhabitants, who were slaughtered indiscriminately and unreligiously, should have been termed forbearance by the Government and their supporters.

Sir E. PERRY supported the resolution because he believed it to be true. At the same time he admitted that he should oppose it if it had come from the other side of the House, or if he foresaw any inconvenience to the Government from its success.

Mr. GREGSON opposed the motion.

Lord J. RUSSELL severely censured the conduct of Sir John Bowring and Admiral Seymour in resorting to such extreme measures of hostility, arising out of a trivial matter which could have been easily and amicably settled, and condemned the Government for their approval of the same.

Mr. LOWE defended the Government.

The debate was then adjourned.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

VISIT OF THE PRINCE OF WALES TO THE ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH STATION, LOTHBURY.—Last Saturday afternoon the Prince of Wales, accompanied by Major-General Wylde, Mr. Gibbs, and Dr. Becker, visited the Electric and International Telegraph Company's station in Lothbury. His Royal Highness was received by Messrs. Critchley, Marsh Phillips, and Till, three of the directors, and proceeded to inspect all the departments of the establishment. The Prince's attention appeared particularly attracted by the direct telegraphic communication with Hamburg, Berlin, Vienna, &c.; and he expressed much gratification with his visit.

CONVERSAZIONE OF THE SOCIETY OF ARTS.—When the Society of Arts holds a *conversazione*, the invited should have some idea antecedently of the aim and purpose of the occasion. If the intention be to prepare a treat for lovers of art, or for the undergraduates in art, then those who pretend to none of the knowledge of virtuosi or the sentiment of dilettanteism, but who rather concern themselves with the interests and progress of manufactures and commerce, will, no doubt, considerably abstain from crowding the Society's rooms with an insincere presence. If, on the other hand, the pursuit of commerce is to predominate, the large proportion of those who seek only to gratify their taste or to be amused will stay away. But especially if, as on this occasion, that minor department of commerce yeapt "trade" is to have the turn, then, the fact being made known, the art folk and the merchant-folk will refrain, unless, indeed, such of them as participate in the amiable disposition to go a shopping. As it is, all of these three sections, who, on last Saturday evening, were jostled, hustled, or rather conglomerated, together, must have been unanimous in dissatisfaction—the art-folk at being artlessly and remorselessly borne past the objects which their longing eyes and yearning hearts desired; the man of commerce that there was no room for "raw produce," or for him; and, worst of all, the hardship and injustice were great to the desirers of shopping. The pursuit of art under difficulties was bad enough; but not to be permitted to buy (or prepare to buy) in peace is quite intolerable. It is painful to think of the experiences of this class of visitors to the Society of Arts. The very teapot one has long sought is seen, through the chinks of the crowd, at the stall of Elkington and Co.; the seeker strains her fair neck towards the price-ticket of the coveted object; but, alas! on like a river (though much warmer) goes the moving mass. How distracting not to be able to compare the lovely cups or vases of Chamberlain and Co. with those equally desiderated by Cope-land and Co.! Nor are the traders (though we believe the fashionable term is "exhibitors") without their grounds of complaint. If invited to empty their shops for a night into the house of the Society of Arts, they have a right to expect "ample space and verge enough" for proper observation of their "goods." Besides, it is undeniable that a piece of curious Oriental armour or of ancient family plate will be apt very unfairly to divert attention from the stalls of shop "exhibitors." We say again it should be one thing or the other. It is all very well to import a fine word, but in our simplicity we doubt whether the *mélée* of discordant elements and contending passions, confused purposes, entangled interests, cold draughts, lost hats, and all sort of things which occurred last week in the Adelphi, is properly termed a *conversazione*.

THE CHINESE AND PERSIAN WARS.—On Monday a numerously-attended meeting against the Chinese and Persian wars was held at the Bridge House Hotel, London-bridge; Frederick Doulton, Esq., in the chair. A resolution was carried unanimously condemning the bombardment of Canton and the expedition against Persia, and protesting against the power of declaring war, or of entering on hostilities, being intrusted to any subordinate official, such powers being by the British Constitution vested in her Majesty alone. The meeting was addressed by the Rev. Henry Richards, Rev. J. Burnet, Rev. J. Waddington, Mr. Passmore Edwards, and other gentlemen.

MANSION-HOUSE.—On Tuesday the Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress entertained at dinner the Master, Wardens, and Court of Assistants of the Fruiterers' Company, the Wardens and Court of Assistants of the Bowyers' Company, the Master and Wardens of the Lorimers' Company, the members of the Court of Common Council of the wards of Tower, Aldersgate, Aldgate, Bassishaw, Billingsgate, Vintry, and Walbrook, and their ladies, as well as a number of private friends. Covers were laid in the Egyptian-hall for 180.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.—The twelfth annual meeting of this association was held on Tuesday evening in Exeter Hall. The large room was completely filled. The Earl of Shaftesbury presided. The secretary read the report, which gave a most gratifying account of the progress which the association had made during the past year. Mr. T. H. Gladstone narrated the results of the observations he had made during his recent tour on the American continent in regard to the operations of the Young Men's Christian Association in that country. The meeting was then addressed by the Rev. J. Graham on "Spiritual Progress;" the Rev. J. H. James, who particularly directed his remarks to the "unconverted" young men; by the Rev. Mr. Landells, and the Rev. Newman Hall. The proceedings of the evening closed by singing the Doxology.

BURNING OF WHITFIELD'S CHAPEL, TOTTENHAM-COURT-ROAD.—On Monday morning, between the hours of three and four o'clock, the large chapel termed the Tottenham-court-road Chapel or Tabernacle was found to be on fire. Before the messengers had time to reach the nearest station, a few hundred yards from the spot, the fire broke through the roof, and in a very brief period it fell in with a tremendous crash, making a noise like a salvo of artillery. For a few seconds the fury of the fire was arrested, but it presently burst forth with renewed vigour, nor was it overcome until the roof from end to end of the chapel was burnt entirely off, the belfry gutted, and many of the tablets extensively damaged.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

THE interest which is at present felt in the colony of Western Australia—to which transportation, successfully commenced in 1850, is now proposed by her Majesty's Government to be continued on a more extensive scale—induces us to continue our illustrations of this promising colony, which we are enabled to do by the courtesy of Captain Henderson, R.E., to whom we are indebted for the accompanying Sketches and descriptive details.

Fremantle (engraved in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS for February 7) contains about 1800 inhabitants; it has four churches—Episcopalian, Dissenting, and Roman Catholic; two good school-houses; and many of the streets are macadamized. The convict prison on the rising ground at the back of the town is now nearly complete for the reception of 1000 prisoners, with the requisite staff.

From Arthur's Head, on which the lighthouse and gaol stand, it is proposed to carry out a breakwater, to form a secure harbour at all seasons of the year—the anchorage about a mile off shore being considered unsafe in winter, at which season ships have to resort to Owens anchorage, three miles south of Fremantle, or to Garden Island, where there is an excellent harbour, secure at all seasons, but which is nine miles from the town of Fremantle.

The mouth of the river is on the north side of Arthur's Head, and, independent of the rocky bar at the mouth, is obstructed for two miles above its mouth by shoals, and not more than four feet of water can be depended on, though of course this is only on the shoals; after



ABORIGINES OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

ascending two miles, the channel of the river deepens, and thence to Perth, or rather to Mount Eliza, the highland immediately below the town, it varies in depth from twenty-five to sixty feet, spreading out into a large sheet of water called Melville Water, four miles below Perth. The opening of the bar and the improvement of the navigation of the shoal parts of the river, have been a subject of anxious investigation, and it is hoped that measures may be made practicable for removing these obstacles and giving the capital the great advantage of an open communication with the sea.

The communication between the two towns has been hitherto chiefly by sailing and passage-boats. A steamer ran between them in 1854, but she was not suited to the river, and was laid up in consequence of the death of her owner. Another steamer, better adapted to the peculiar wants of the community and the river, was sent out from England last year. The high-road runs on the north bank of the river, and has been opened and made by convict labour. It is now in course of being macadamized, and, when complete, will form a fine line of communication.

Twelve miles up the River Swan is Perth, the capital of the colony, containing at present about 2000 inhabitants. It is beautifully situated on the banks of the river, and can boast of several churches, a large hospital, schoolhouses, and many agreeable private residences.

The soil in the neighbourhood of Perth varies very much, but much of it is of very excellent quality; and the show of fruit, flowers, and vegetables in Perth and its environs is exceedingly good.

The vine, the olive, the castor-oil tree, the orange, and the lemon, all thrive here in the open air; and a single bunch of grapes has been

known to weigh 26 lb. The olive bears its fruit in three years, instead of seven as in the Mediterranean, and most English fruits (except currants and gooseberries) do well.

Seven miles further up the river is the thriving village of Guildford, near which an extensive bridge has been erected by convict labour across the River Swan, connecting the large farms on the upper Swan with the main road to Perth and Fremantle. It was erected under the able superintendence of Lieut. Du Cane, R.E., after the model of the bridges in use in America. A range of hills, called the Darling Range, from 800 to 1400 feet above the sea, runs parallel to the coast, varying from fifteen to twenty miles distance from the sea. Across these hills the roads to the flourishing settlements on the upper branches of the Swan River have to be carried. The ascents are steep, but have been greatly improved since the introduction of convict labour. The new ascent of the hills on the road to the Toodyay Settlement (part of which is shown in the Sketch) is a very excellent piece of work, and has proved of material benefit to the settlers in the transport of their wool and other produce.

Hence to York, the chief settlement over the Darling Hills, is fifty miles east, and to Toodyay forty miles north-east; and of course to keep in proper repair such long lines of communication, which are only now emerging from their primitive condition of bush tracks, requires a large supply of labour. York and Toodyay are at present the principal corn-producing districts of the colony, although a considerable breadth of land in the southern districts, near Bunbury, has been within the last few years brought under cultivation, and produces excellent crops of corn.

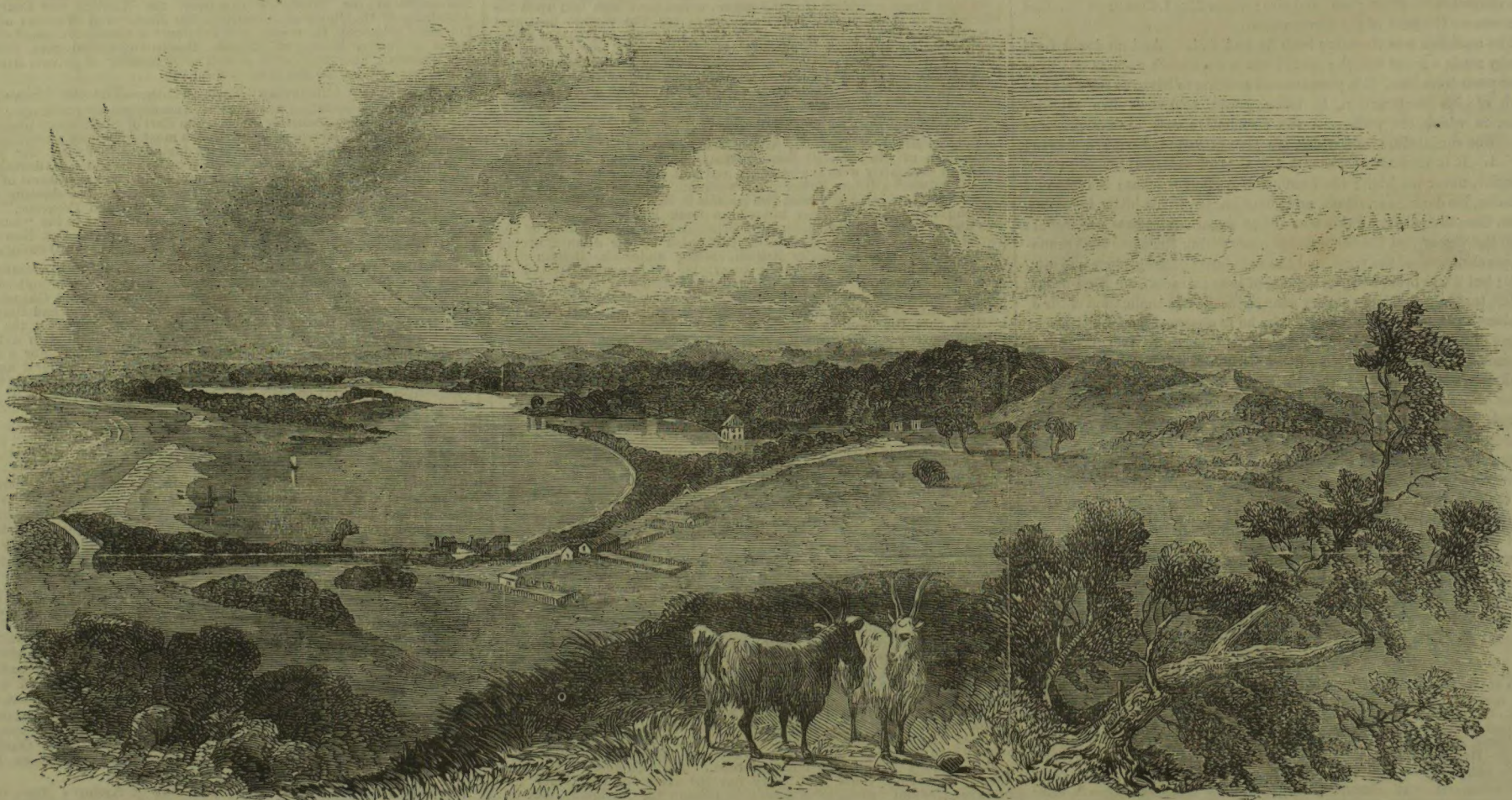
York is pleasantly situated in the rich valley of the Avon, and thence the farms and stations extend still fifty miles further. The high land at the back of the town of York, which appears in the Sketch (engraved upon the first page of the present Number), is known as Mount Bakewell, or more familiarly as "old Bakewell;" the inhabitants of York being justly proud of their handsome friend.

Like most Australian rivers the Swan, or Avon as it is called at York, only runs in the winter, and sometimes not even then, being entirely dependent on the rain that falls in the winter months; but there are occasional reaches, or "pools" as they are termed, where the water remains fresh and sweet the whole year round, except in very severe droughts—of which, however, there is only one on record—when the pools become brackish.

The improving little sea-port town of Bunbury, a portion of which is shown in the accompanying Illustration (by another Correspondent), is pleasantly situated at the mouth of the Leschenault Estuary, into which three rivers discharge their waters. There is much good land in the neighbourhood, and many thriving farms; and between it and the Vasse (celebrated for its butter and potatoes), and as far as Augusta, forty miles south of the Vasse, the Tuart timber, for which an Admiralty contract has been recently taken, mainly grows.

The jarrah-tree, which is impervious to the white ant and the *Teredo navalis*, grows all along the Darling Range, and a large quantity for the South Australian railways has been shipped at Bunbury and the Vasse.

(To be continued.)



BUNBURY, IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

SKETCHES FROM CHINA.

CANTON STREET-GUARD.—REARING SILK-WORMS.

The first portrait sketch shows one of the Canton guards. A considerable portion of the land forces are a mere municipal police; and, as we find it stated, among the allotted duties of a Chinese soldier, "the timid to guard the gate," the soldier here portrayed may not be very formidable, notwithstanding his show of arms.

Chinese military maxims are often beautiful in theory; take, for instance, "The army may be one hundred years unemployed, but not a single day unprepared;" and their articles of war and some of their military laws are such as, if judiciously enforced, ought to ensure a formidable army.

Thus, according to their articles of war, they say:—"In the day of battle press forward bravely; whoever, through fear, saves his life shall be decapitated, and his head exposed as a warning. To kill an enemy shall be rewarded as a meritorious act. If a soldier is killed, his family are compassionated. The coward, i.e., the conquered, cannot live; if he rushes forward it is not certain that he dies, but if he draws back it is impossible that he can live. Let the officers inculcate this principle on the men, that they may doubtless be brave, and killing the thieves, their enemies, meritoriously distinguish themselves." The policy of this article is, however, to say the least, questionable; and lamentable effects of it were seen at Chang-keang-fou, which was defended solely by Tartars, whose ancestors had, two hundred years before, put the finishing stroke to the conquest of China, by a most brilliant exploit in that very place. It was then one of the largest cities in the country, and, in its own province of Kiang-tsu, second only in importance to Nankin, the capital. The Tartars crossed the Yang-tse-Kiang on the ice, and took the city by a coup de main. The first Emperor of the Manchu dynasty gave it them as a prize, and in their hands it had since remained subject entirely to Tartar laws and customs. The original natives inhabited the suburbs which grew up around it, and became their servants. In the first watch a curfew tolled for the close of the gates, when all Chinese had to leave the walled city, which was essentially Tartar, and, of all places, threatened the greatest resistance to a foreign foe. But the city walls were deserted or nearly so, and the greater part of the garrison as they retreated from street to street made but a slight defence, while not a few preferred suicide—some, perhaps, from a high but mistaken sense of honour, which forbade them flying or falling alive into the enemy's hands; others from a dread of the hard fate which awaited them at the hands of their own countrymen, if they survived the capture of their posts.

Again: "The utmost pains must be taken to preserve their arms in good order, and keep their ammunition dry." Let a man be as careful as he may the cartouch-boxes are of so inferior an order that a shower of rain would render a Chinese army who depended on their fire-arms only totally inefficient. The Chinese soldier has no bayonet nor manoeuvres with the matchlock on parade, as the European, nor in time of peace does he mount guard with arms; hence, except at reviews, the fire-arms are untouched.

"When an officer is wounded or taken, the men shall make the utmost efforts to carry him off or rescue him; if they neglect to do so, and defeat ensues, the guilty men shall be decapitated." This article is generally a dead letter, the officers being usually those whose lives were forfeited by a retreat. They, by their personal valour, have done something to uphold the dignity of the nation. At Woosang nearly all the rank and file fled, leaving their guns to be worked by the superior Mandarins, the chief of whom fell at his post.

"Soldiers must not quit the pursuit of a flying foe for plunder." We cannot authenticate an instance of their quitting a flying foe for plunder; but in the war in 1842 the authorities often acknowledged that their own soldiers plundered more than their enemies, and the protection of the barbarians against natives was often, especially at Shang-Kiang-Fu, sought for and accorded.

"The utmost vigilance and silence are required of men on duty at any pass or post. On obtaining any information they must depute able men to communicate it speedily and secretly." On the night before the taking of Woosang such was the din of gongs and howling, and the light established by each Chinese soldier carrying a lighted lantern, that, guided by them, the captains of our surveying vessels not only sounded the entrance and the line of battering positions, but also marked by anchoring buoys the positions for the several ships as they were taken up on the following morning.

"While encamped the patrols must be vigilant, and particularly so at night. On any alarm none must act hurriedly or with levity. Secret



CANTON STREET-GUARD.

orders must be carefully obeyed, and not allowed to transpire from one another." At the night attack on Ningpo thousands of Chinese fell from every soldier carrying a lantern. As soon as the gate guards had been reinforced, the Chinese were repulsed; and, directed by the light of their own lanterns, each musket and field-piece ball took effect on them.

The other military regulations are as much disregarded as the above articles of war. In short, in a Chinese camp of the present day there is little or no discipline. This should not be the case where merit alone (at least so say the edicts) can make a military Mandarin, all alike rising from the ranks. Under the head of military laws may be mentioned the following:—Protection of the palace, the person of the Emperor, and his apartments, together with those of his Empress, the Empress Mother, and grandmother. Military forces, except in great emergency, cannot be called out without the sanction of the Emperor; and every movement must be reported to the Commander-in-Chief, by him to the military

board, and by them to the Emperor. Betrayal of trust, including defeat, is severely punished, according to rank. Protection of the frontier is under military surveillance. No person is allowed to pass without a license, under a penalty of blows.

The second picture is of stronger domestic interest. Silk is the staple manufacture of China. In a work published by Imperial authority there are numerous woodcuts, accompanied by letterpress, explanatory of the different processes of the silk manufacture, and detailing all the operations connected with the planting of the mulberry, and the gathering of the leaves, up to the final weaving of the silk. Besides the common mulberry of China, which differs somewhat from that of Europe, they occasionally, in feeding the worms, have recourse to a wild specimen of the *morus* tribe, as well as to the leaves of another tree, supposed to be a variety of ash.

The Chinese pay especial attention to the quantity of nourishment with which the silkworm is supplied; as upon this, they say, depends the quantity of silk which the worm will produce. They calculate that the same number of insects which would, if they had attained their full size in from twenty-three to twenty-five days, produce twenty five ounces of silk, would only yield twenty ounces if their growth occupied twenty-eight days, and only ten ounces if forty days. During the first twenty-four hours of the creature's existence, the patient Chinese feeds the object of his care forty-eight times, or once every half hour, and during the second day and night thirty times, and so on, reducing the number of meals as the worm grows older. The care bestowed on their culture, and the numerous precautions taken to preserve them clean and warm, are curiously expressed in the following extract from an old Chinese work on the subject:—

The place where their habitations are built must be retired, free from noisome smells, cattle, and all noises; a noisome smell, or the least fright, makes great impressions upon so tender a breed; even the barking of dogs and the crowing of cocks are capable of putting them in disorder when they are newly hatched.

For the purpose of paying them every attention, an affectionate mother is provided for the worms, who is careful to supply their wants: she is called *Isan-mon*, mother of the worms. She takes possession of the chamber, but not till she has washed herself, and put on clean clothes which have not the least ill smell; she must not have eaten anything immediately before, or have handled any wild succory, the smell of which is very prejudicial to these tender creatures; she must be clothed in a plain habit, without any lining, that she may be more sensible of the warmth of the place, and accordingly increase or lessen the fire; but she must carefully avoid making a smoke or raising a dust, which would be very offensive to these tender creatures, which must be carefully humoured before the first time of casting their slough. Every day is to them a year, and has, in a manner, the four seasons—the morning is the spring, the middle of the day the summer, the evening the autumn, and the night the winter.

The scene of the Illustration, a sort of *silk-farm*, may be thus described from Davis's excellent work, "The Chinese":—

When the worms have cast their several skins, reached their greatest size, and assumed a transparent yellowish colour, they are removed into places divided into compartments, preparatory to their spinning. In the course of a week after the commencement of spinning the silken cocoons are complete, and it now becomes necessary to take them in hand before the pupæ turn into moths, which would immediately bore their way out, and spoil the cocoons. When a certain number, therefore, have been laid aside for the sake of future eggs, the pupæ in the bulk of the cocoons are killed by being placed in jars under layers of salt and leaves, with a complete exclusion of air. They are subsequently placed in moderately warm water, which dissolves the glutinous substance that binds the silk together, and the filament is wound off upon reels. This is put up in bundles of a certain size and weight, and either becomes an article of merchandise under the name of "raw silk," or is subjected to the loom, and manufactured into various stuffs for home or for foreign consumption. Notwithstanding the apparent simplicity of their looms, they will imitate exactly the newest and most elegant patterns from England or France. The Chinese particularly excel in the production of damasks and flowered satins. Their crape has never yet been perfectly imitated; and they make a species of *washing silk*, called at Canton *ponge*, which becomes more soft as it is longer used.



SILK CULTURE IN CHINA: PREPARING RAW SILK.

An order of civil merit is greatly needed in this country. If the soldier and the sailor prize their cheap ribbon and their cheap cross, so dearly purchased, the heroes of peace would prize a similar distinction quite as highly. We know of no reason why it should be given to the one class, and withheld from the other, unless it be the old reason—or unreason—that it has never been done before; and that the path of Routine is the only safe and decent path in which official personages can walk themselves, or allow their Sovereign to precede them. Such an institution would not only be a means of expressing the gratitude of the nation towards men who confer honour upon its language and its name, advantage upon its arts and sciences, and give extension to its commerce and increase to its wealth, but would partake largely of an educational character. The people in this as in other countries are social and gregarious. If they are told, by the plain symbol of an order of merit, by a ribbon, a cross, or a star, that the Queen and the Government deem Mr. A. to be a great poet or author, they will be induced to read Mr. A.'s works. If they are told in the same way that Mr. B. is a great philosopher, they will study him; and so on through the whole alphabet of that genius which it is a national privilege to possess, but of which the nation, immersed in its own business, and having none to guide it, is too often profoundly ignorant. It

such recognition were to cost the taxpayers of the country anything but the almost infinitesimal sum necessary to buy a few yards of ribbon—which many a manufacturer in Coventry would be glad to make the nation a present of for the purpose—we might attach some little weight to the objections that Mr. Barnacle, of the Circumlocution-office, or Mr. Prosy, M.P. for all England, would be certain to raise against it. But it would cost nothing but a little moral courage on the part of the Ministry to propose it. That it will be done some day we have no doubt; and whether it be done at Lord Palmerston's instigation, or at that of Lord Derby, it will be equally advantageous to the country, and equally honourable to him who shall effect it.

WE report elsewhere the proceedings that took place on Wednesday evening at the annual meeting of the Society for Promoting the Repeal of the Taxes on Knowledge. We have not once only, but twenty times, expressed our entire sympathy with the objects of the association, and our opinion of the impolicy of the Excise-duty upon paper—whether considered in reference to its effect upon commerce and the employment of the rural and urban population, or upon the dissemination of useful and civilising knowledge. We believe the soundness of the arguments employed by those who advocate, as we do, the repeal of the duty is very generally admitted. The question is not a party one, and appeals to no prejudice or foregone conclusion of any kind, and is supported by the most eminent men both in and out of Parliament. The only real objection comes to it from successive Chancellors of the Exchequer, who one after the other decline to meddle with it; and silence—or attempt to silence—the friends of cheap knowledge and untaxed manufacture by the statement that they cannot possibly afford to relinquish the million of pounds sterling which it brings into the Treasury. But we know, and the present Budget shows, that the Government can afford to forego a great deal of money if it chooses. A million per annum is doubtless a goodly sum; but the Government which spends about £540,000 per annum in stationery, and in the printing of cumbersome and unreadable, and sometimes very useless, Blue Books, of which a large proportion find their way to the shops of the dealers in waste paper before they are a week old, might, by a little wholesome pressure of public opinion, be forced to relinquish the million, and save a portion of the loss by reforming its stationers' and printers' bills. The reduction would assuredly not be all loss to the nation, for, by throwing open a very important department of manufacture, many thousands of the rural population who are now burdens upon their parishes might find constant employment, to the great relief of the poor-rates, and to the general enrichment of the community. Sir Cornwell Lewis is himself an eminent literary man, and must know the injurious effect of the tax upon all concerned with the production of literature, from the humblest makers of the raw material to the most illustrious of living authors, whose thoughts are by means of paper communicated to the world. The loss to the revenue from the abolition of the duty would, we feel convinced from a pretty intimate acquaintance with and long study of the subject, be but partial and temporary; and the country, after the lapse of a few years, instead of being poorer, would be much the richer, if the present Chancellor would only resolve to do the right thing in this particular instance, irrespective of consequences. What has the country lost by the repeal of the hundreds of Customs and other duties which it owes to the wise courage of the late Sir Robert Peel? Nothing; but, on the contrary, it has largely gained. So it would be with the repeal of the Excise-duty on paper after the first few years of freedom, if the Chancellor of the Exchequer would add a little boldness to his acknowledged wisdom. A tax that cannot be justified on any rational ground must fall, sooner or later. The cry of "Cheap Bread!" was a tower of strength to the Minister who adopted it. We cordially recommend that of "Cheap Knowledge!" to the present Government.

AN incalculable amount of nonsense has been uttered and printed about Scottish rights and Scottish grievances during the last few years. Noble Lords and learned Professors have vied with each other in the extravagance of their nationality and self-laudation; and a whole host of stump orators have harangued gaping crowds touching the shameful manner in which they have been treated by the Legislature of the United Kingdom. The people of Scotland have, however, awakened at last to a real grievance, and directed their attention to the difference between their political condition and that of the people of England. Here they have found a monstrous grievance in the law relating to the county franchise, which calls loudly for reform; but, on asking for help to remedy that evil, they meet with no response from the Scottish Rights Association. The noble Lords and learned Professors who boast so loudly of the superior intelligence of the Scottish peasantry have not a word to say against an electoral system which places the people of England so far above those of Scotland with regard to the elective franchise, but we are glad to believe that the Scottish people will do without their assistance.

Many of our readers are doubtless not aware that the county franchise in Scotland is restricted to owners of property worth £10 annually, instead of being extended to all who possess a 40s. freehold. The origin of this remarkable anomaly belongs to the period of the religious persecutions in Scotland, when the Duke of York, afterwards James II., was endeavouring to crush the spirit of the Covenanters who stood up so bravely for freedom of conscience. Finding that the middle classes throughout the country were generally opposed to the tyrannical measures of Charles and his advisers, the Duke of York persuaded the Scottish Parliament to pass an Act in 1681 for the disfranchisement of the 40s. freeholders, and the wrong then inflicted still remains in full force. Since the passing of the Reform Bill, in 1832, several attempts have been made to awaken public attention to the subject, but it is only within the last few months that the people of Scotland have begun to grapple with it earnestly. The Rev. Dr. Begg (of Edinburgh), Mr. Duncan MacLaren (late Provost of that city), and several other leaders of the freehold movement—after having held public meetings in Edinburgh, Glasgow, Paisley, and other large towns, where the expression of sympathy with

the cause has been hearty and unanimous—are now in London, with a view to ascertain what amount of support they are likely to receive from the members of the House of Commons. So far as we can learn they have met with a hearty reception from the great body of English Liberals, and have even obtained promises of support from many Conservatives.

We understand that the subject will be brought before the House of Commons at an early period of the Session. Mr. Laing, M.P. for the Wick Burghs, has promised to introduce the bill, which will be supported by Mr. Roebuck, Mr. Cobden, and other leading Reformers. Considerable curiosity is felt as to what course the Government may take.

THE COURT.

The Queen and the Prince remain at Buckingham Palace at present, but arrangements have been made for the reception of her Majesty at Windsor Castle on Tuesday next.

There have been almost daily dinner parties during the week at the Palace. Among the guests of her Majesty and the Prince have been the Royal Highnesses the Duke of Cambridge, their Royal Highnesses the Duchess of Cambridge and the Princess Mary, the Turkish Ambassador and Madame Musurus, the Hanoverian Minister (Count Klemansdorff), the Duke and Duchess of Bedford, the Sardinian Minister (Marquis d'Azeglio), the United States' Minister and Mrs. Dallas, Lord and Lady John Russell, the Earl and Countess of Clarendon, Lady Blomfield, the Marquis of Lansdowne, the Earl and Countess of Bessborough, the Earl of Ellenborough and Lord and Lady Colville, the Marquis of Abercorn and Lady Louisa Hamilton, the Earl of Eglington, the Countess de Flahault, Viscount Monck, Major-General Sir Chas. Yorke, the Right Hon. C. P. Villiers, and Sir John Ramsden.

On Sunday the Queen and the Prince, with the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, the Princesses Alice and Helena, the ladies and gentlemen of the Court, and the domestic household, attended Divine service in the private chapel of Buckingham Palace. The Hon. and Very Rev. the Dean of Windsor officiated.

On Thursday his Royal Highness Prince Albert held a levee for her Majesty, in St. James's Palace. His Royal Highness arrived soon after two, escorted by a detachment of the Horse Guards (Blue), and was received at St. James's by the great Officers of State.

THE PAPER-DUTY.

A large and influential meeting was held on Wednesday night in St. Martin's Hall, being the sixth annual public meeting of the Association for Promoting the Repeal of the Taxes on Knowledge. The chair was taken by Sir Joseph Paxton, M.P.; and near him we observed the Right Hon. T. Milner Gibson, M.P., Herbert Ingram, M.P., Mr. Serjeant Parry, Dr. Watts, Dr. Epps, and others.

The Chairman, in opening the proceedings, said he had hoped that by that time they would have been in a position to congratulate themselves on the repeal of the obnoxious Paper-duty, but since the meeting of Parliament the Chancellor of the Exchequer had dispelled that hope for the present. The Chancellor of the Exchequer was evidently driven to his wit's end to find an excuse for the retention of the tax, but yet he retained it notwithstanding. He believed that the object of the tax was to prevent the spread of knowledge, and that was why the duty was maintained. The honourable gentleman then gave a number of statistics showing to what an enormous extent the glass trade had increased since the duty had been repealed; and so it would be with paper. The duty on the glass used in the original Crystal Palace would have been about £40,000, whereas without the duty the total cost of the glass was £13,000. Had the duty been on the glass they would never have had a Crystal Palace, because the glass alone with the duty would have cost £53,000 (Cheers). Bad as the tax was on light, it was infinitely worse on knowledge. The Paper-duty was a stoppage upon all improvement. It was impossible under such an obnoxious tax to improve the manufacture of paper. No papermaker could try experiments, as he had to pay duty upon his experiments.

Dr. Epps rose to propose the following resolution:—"That the excise on paper limits its supply and enhances its price, is ruinous to the small manufacturer, restricts the field for the employment of capital and labour, and thus tends to produce pauperism and crime; and that the interest of the country imperatively demands that a less injurious mode of raising money be resorted to than a tax on so important a manufacture." It was, indeed, extraordinary that any Government professing itself to be civilised should impose a tax which must have the effect of retarding civilisation. Great talk was made about the recent defalcations of Sadleir and others, but, as a gentleman remarked to him the other day, the Government were the legalised robbers of the day, because it was well known that they constantly put their stamp on a ream of paper sold for 20 lb., when in fact it confessedly weighed but 18 lb.

Dr. John Watts seconded the resolution. In America the cost of common wrapping-paper was 1½d. a pound; here the price was 4½d. a pound, the difference being wholly attributable to the tax and the interference of the excise-man. After showing how the duty interfered with the manufacturer, and unduly limited what would be a profitable field of labour, employing hundreds of thousands of labourers, he concluded by describing it as an industry-starring, intellect-crushing, and idiot-making tax.

Mr. H. Ingram, M.P., spoke in support of the resolution, observing that personally he was disinterested in the question—believing that the Paper-duty was not adverse to his own personal interests. Some time ago he was ambitious of a large book trade in works of an educational character; but the heavy loss which the operation of the duty entailed upon him compelled him to give it up, the permission having been refused him to print his books at his paper-mill, where it could be done more conveniently and at less cost. There were people who said that the repeal of the duty would not reduce the price, and quoted the instance of the Leather-duty, the repeal of which had not decreased the price of shoes, which had rather gone on increasing since the repeal of the tax. But the Leather-duty was an exceptional case: there was a limit to the number of skins available for the manufacture of leather, and that limit was not wide enough to meet the demand. In no other country in the world was there a Paper-duty. In that England stood alone (Hear, hear). The Chinese, who invented paper, might well call us outside barbarians (Cheers). When this tax was first put on it was described as a war tax, and when it was first talked about the House of Commons were so indignant that they passed a resolution denouncing the rumour that they intended to impose an Excise-duty, declaring the statement to be false and scandalous, and directing that the authors of it should be apprehended and brought to punishment. But, notwithstanding this resolution, they passed the Paper-duty. What punishment they deserved for so doing it was not for him to say, neither was it for him to say what punishment the present House of Commons deserved for keeping it on (Hear, hear). The Income-tax, bad as it was, was not half so objectionable, or half so inquisitorial, as the Paper-duty, and he confessed that he felt ashamed of the moneyed and middle class of this country in making so much noise about the Income-tax, while they were comparatively indifferent to the continuance of the Paper-duty. In the United States the annual production of paper was 270,000,000 lb., while the total quantity manufactured in England was only 160,000,000 lb., not more than one half of which was for home consumption. It had been said that this was a rural manufacture: it was so, and if the duty were abolished it would employ hundreds of thousands of the rural population. In the neighbourhood of Peterborough, "twitche," one of the most deleterious weeds known to agriculturists, was being experimented upon as a raw material for paper. The experiment had been most successful, and a very valuable description of paper had resulted; but he believed the attempt to introduce this material must be abandoned on account of the Excise. There was a regulation under which a drawback was allowed for the Paper-duty on Bibles and Prayer-books, and during the last two years the amount of that drawback was £22,361. But why should not the same favour be shown to Wesley's and Watts's hymns, and all other books of a religious or educational character? At one time or another the repeal of this tax had been advocated by all the great statesmen of the present day—by Chancellors of the Exchequer, and by one or two Prime Ministers. Lord Stanley, last year, at a meeting at Lynn, denounced it in eloquent terms; and even Sir Cornwell Lewis, though he did not condemn it, "damned it with faint praise" (Hear, hear).

The resolution was then put and carried unanimously. Mr. Serjeant Parry moved, "That the tax on paper is a tax on knowledge, which, by destroying the author's fund, deteriorates cheap literature, and checks the enterprise of the best publishers; and that it ought, therefore, to be immediately repealed."

This resolution was seconded by Mr. Helps and carried. Mr. M. Gibson, who was loudly cheered, moved that the thanks of the meeting be given to Sir J. Paxton, whose sympathies, he said, had always been with the industrious classes, and would, in his place in Parliament, be amongst the steadiest of the supporters of the repeal of the Paper-duty (Hear).

It had been his (Mr. Gibson's) lot to see many Chancellors of the Exchequer and other Ministers on the subject of this duty, and he must say that he had always been received with courtesy, but there had invariably been some reason or other advanced, unsupported by anything like argument, against the repeal, and the result was he was politely bowed out ("Hear," and a laugh). The present Chancellor of the Exchequer, however, was the first that had attempted to defend the tax upon other grounds than that of financial necessity.

The resolution, having been seconded, was carried by acclamation; and the Chairman having briefly acknowledged the compliment, the meeting separated.

COUNTRY NEWS.

WEST KENT ELECTION.—The official declaration of the poll took place at Maidstone on Saturday last. J. Savage, Esq., the High Sheriff, having stated the numbers polled—which were, for Mr. Martin, 3557; for Sir W. Riddell, 3149: majority for Martin, 408—declared the former duly elected—an announcement which was received with loud cheering. Mr. Martin then made a short speech, thanking the electors for the honour conferred upon him; and, after a vote of thanks to the High Sheriff, the meeting separated.

NATIONAL SUNDAY LEAGUE.—A public meeting, attended by about 6000 persons, was held on Sunday last on Newcastle Moor, to protest against the conduct of the opponents of the National Sunday League at a meeting held on the previous Monday night, and to adopt a petition to Parliament in favour of the objects of the League. The chair was taken by Mr. Thomas Gregson. Mr. Cowan, who employs a great number of persons in the neighbourhood, moved a resolution expressive of the opinion of the meeting that the efforts of the National Sunday League to obtain the opening of museums, galleries, &c., on Sundays deserves the support of the working classes. An amendment was moved by the Rev. Mr. Rutherford, but the resolution was carried by a large majority, and the petition to Parliament in favour of the objects sought by the League met with the general assent of the meeting, only fourteen hands being held up against it. Mr. Rutherford declared himself willing to hold a discussion on the Sunday question, which was at once accepted by the friends of the League.

STRIKE AT THE NEW DOCK WORKS AT BIRKENHEAD.—On Monday morning nearly the whole of the extensive works now in progress at the Birkenhead Docks, under Messrs. Thomson, the contractors, were suddenly brought to a standstill, in consequence of several hundred of the employed navvies, composed principally of Irishmen, having struck work. The cessation of labour by one particular branch, which was that of filling waggons, had its effect upon the other departments, and plate-layers, tippers, engine-drivers, and overlookers were thrown idle. About 200 navvies struck in the first instance; but their number was speedily augmented, and at present there are about 1000 men doing nothing. The cause of the grievance has been variously stated. The contractors say that it is not so much a matter of wages with the men as the "Irish against the English," or an attempt on the part of the natives of the Sister Isle to drive all Englishmen from the works. The Messrs. Thomson have made arrangements for bringing men from their various contracts in different parts of the country to replace those now out on strike. On Tuesday morning some of the workmen commenced operations, but they were soon visited by gangs of the "turn-outs," who compelled them to desist.

LORD LIEUTENANCY OF THE WEST RIDING.—The office of Lord Lieutenant of the West Riding of Yorkshire, vacant by the death of the Earl of Harewood, will of course soon be filled up by the Government. It will be remembered that the late Earl Fitzwilliam was deprived of the office by the Ministry of Lord Liverpool, for the political offence of attending a county meeting at York, to petition for an inquiry into the outrage at Peterloo, Manchester, on the 16th of August, 1819. The office was then bestowed upon Lord Lascelles, who in the following year became Earl of Harewood. On his death it was bestowed on Lord Wharncliffe; and again on his decease it was given to the late Earl of Harewood. It would seem just and natural that the honour should now revert to Wentworth House, whence it was taken by so unjust and illiberal a punishment for an act which was highly meritorious.—*Leeds Mercury.*

MR. HUMPHREY BROWN, M.P., AND THE ROYAL BRITISH BANK.—A public dinner was given at Tewksbury on Monday night, followed by a presentation of plate, to Mr. H. Brown, M.P. for the borough, and a director of the Royal British Bank. The testimonial consisted of a handsome silver centre-piece, valued at 250 guineas, and bearing the following inscription:—"Presented to Humphrey Brown, Esq., M.P., by the tradesmen and working classes of Tewksbury, in testimony of their regard for him as an independent member of the House of Commons, and a townsman. February 23, 1857. 1013 subscribers."

BOSTON, SLEAFORD, AND MIDLAND COUNTIES RAILWAY.—On Monday last the half-yearly meeting of this company was held at the Euston Hotel—Mr. Ingram, M.P., in the chair. The report states that, since the last half-yearly meeting, the works between Grantham and Sleaford have progressed most satisfactorily, and there is no doubt that this section will be ready for traffic in May next. An agreement has been made with the Great Northern Railway Company for working the line when completed to Sleaford, and afterwards to Boston, for a period of ten years, for fifty per cent of the gross earnings, keeping in good repair the entire property; so that one-half the earnings from the opening of the line will be available for dividend. The Great Northern and the Ambergate Railway Companies have agreed to carry over their respective lines all coal sent from the midland district for shipment at Boston at the rates proposed by the coalowners of such district, thereby enabling the directors to comply with the conditions on which these gentlemen have promised their pecuniary assistance in extending the line to Boston. The directors have entered into a provisional contract with Messrs. Smith and Knight for completing the line to Boston, and are also proceeding with the purchase of the lands over which the proposed line will pass. Immediately on the agreement with the coalowners being perfected the works between Sleaford and Boston will be commenced, and as they are of an unusually light description, the contractors will be enabled to have that part of the line opened for traffic early in the spring of next year. The report, after stating that the trade of Boston has considerably increased, and on completion of the railway the probability that 500,000 tons of coals will pass over it to Boston for shipment for Continental ports, expresses the unabated confidence of the directors in the success of the undertaking. On the motion of the Chairman the report was adopted. The directors and auditors were elected. The meeting was then made special, and the directors were authorised to exercise the borrowing powers of the company. A vote of thanks to the Chairman and directors concluded the proceedings.

THE PERSIAN EXPEDITION.

(See next page.)

WE have been favoured by a Correspondent with the accompanying Sketches, by an officer, in the Bushire Roads, showing part of what occurred during the attack and capture of Bushire.

1. *View of Kurrachee Harbour outside the Bar.*—The 2nd Europeans embarked from this place. Many of them had been suffering from fever, and seventy men of the 1st Fusiliers had been transferred to them. The principal object in the town is the church, a building with a large ugly tower, which makes a capital mark for entering the harbour. The lighthouse seen on the projecting point of land is called Minora Point.

2. A Sketch taken while the *Semiramis* was entering the harbour of Buncer Abbas. The H.E.I.C. steam-frigates *Feroze* and *Ajdha* are the vessels with steam up. There were about thirty ships, including transports, lying at anchor in this harbour before they started for their destination—Bushire.

3. Another View of the Island of Kishur, showing the entrance to Clarence's Strait, between Kishur and the Persian coast.

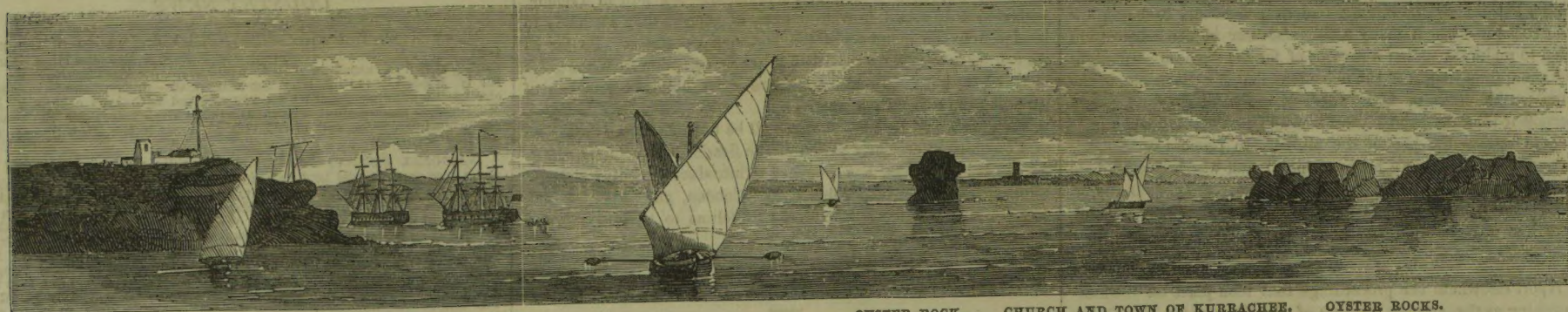
4. *The Bay of Hallilah.*—On the right is Hallilah-hill. Near the first clump of date-trees (on the right) is the place for landing; the shore being rocky more to the left. The gun-boats were stationed here to defend the landing of the troops. The firing commenced here on Sunday, Dec. 7, at about half-past six in the morning, from the gun-boats, and the enemy's troops were soon dislodged from clump No. 3, and were seen flying in all directions. After this no opposition was made to the landing. The boats in the foreground contain the 64th (H.M.) Regiment, and the Bombay (or 4th) Rifles. The *Bombay* and *Sir Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy* are two small steamers, employed in towing boats, &c.

5. The *Assaye*, *Punjab*, and *Feroze* shelling an old Portuguese land battery, at which the Persians made a stand; but much could not be seen from the *Semiramis*. On the right is an Indus flat—a small iron steamer, drawing about three feet water.

6. *View of Bushire*, taken from the *Semiramis* as she was going from Hallilah towards the town.

7. *Bushire from the "Semiramis."*—The action commenced about half-past seven o'clock in the morning. The Persians sent off a boat with a flag of truce, asking for a day to consider about surrendering; the answer was that they should have one hour. This was probably a ruse to gain time. By some mistake the *Victoria* commenced firing before this boat had reached the shore; the Persians returned the fire, and several shots went close to the *Semiramis*. The action then commenced, and shots were falling thick and close to the *Semiramis*, when the *Feroze* came up, and diverted the fire of the enemy. An incessant fire was then carried on from the *Semiramis* for upwards of two hours and a half—assisted by the *Feroze*, *Assaye*, and gun-boats—during which time the gun at the corner of the wall was dismounted by the fore-gun of the *Semiramis*, and all the guns from the round forts silenced, with the exception of the one on the left. By far the most troublesome guns were those on the three sandbag batteries on the right of the town, but these were at last silenced; a well-aimed shell from the H.E.I.C. corvette *Faulkland* doing much damage. No. 3 was the last to hold out. About one o'clock the firing had ceased, and the Persians had hauled down their flagstaff, in token of surrender. Our troops were seen marching up, and at five o'clock a loud cheering drew our attention to the British flag waving on the walls of Bushire.

THE PERSIAN EXPEDITION.



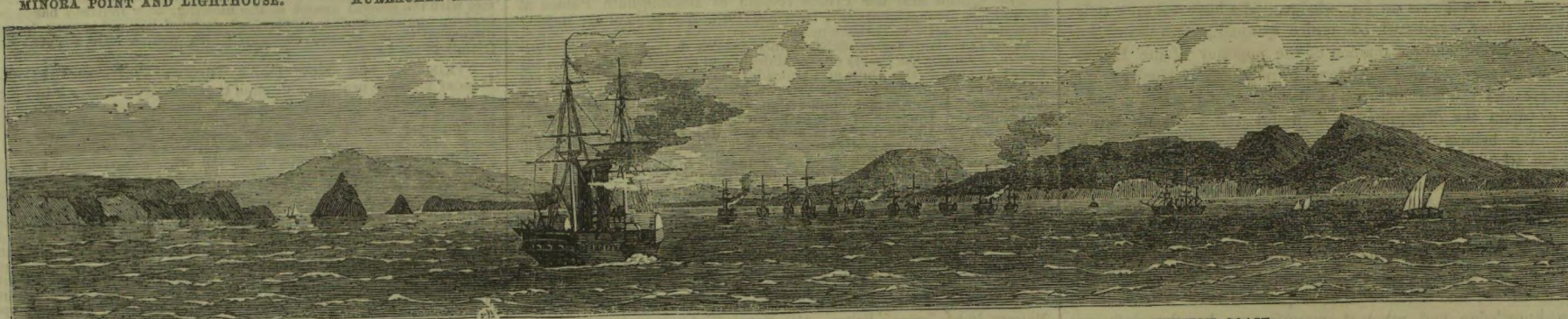
MINORA POINT AND LIGHTHOUSE.

KURRACHEE HARBOUR.

OYSTER ROCK.

CHURCH AND TOWN OF KURRACHEE.

OYSTER ROCKS.

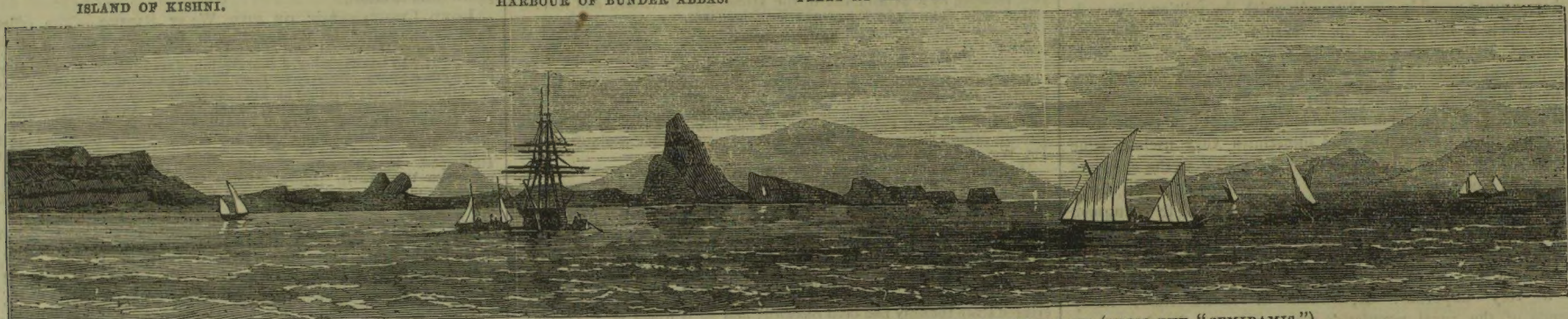


ISLAND OF KISHNI.

HARBOUR OF BUNDER ABBAS.

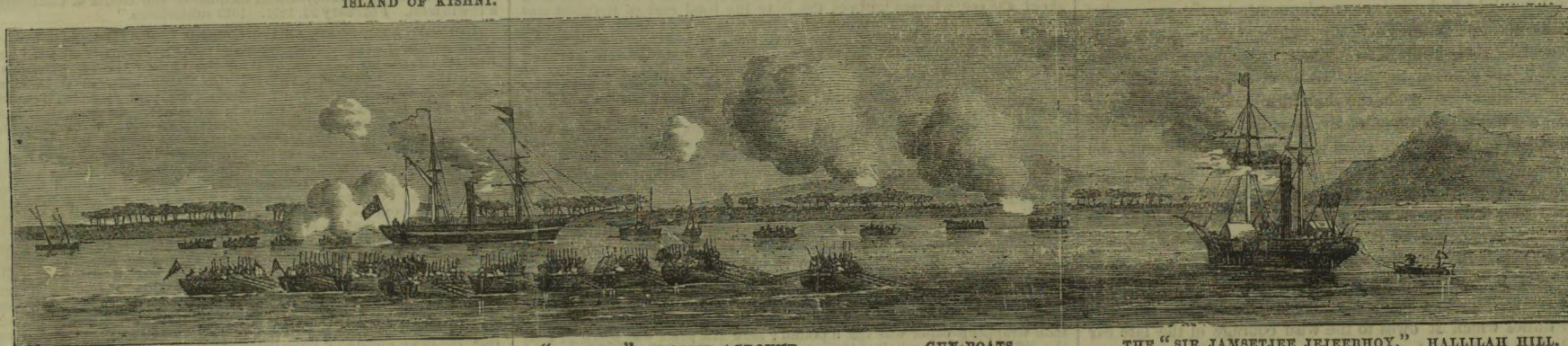
FLEET AT ANCHOR.

PERSIAN COAST.



ISLAND OF KISHNI.

ENTRANCE TO CLARENCE STRAIT (FROM THE "SEMIRAMIS").

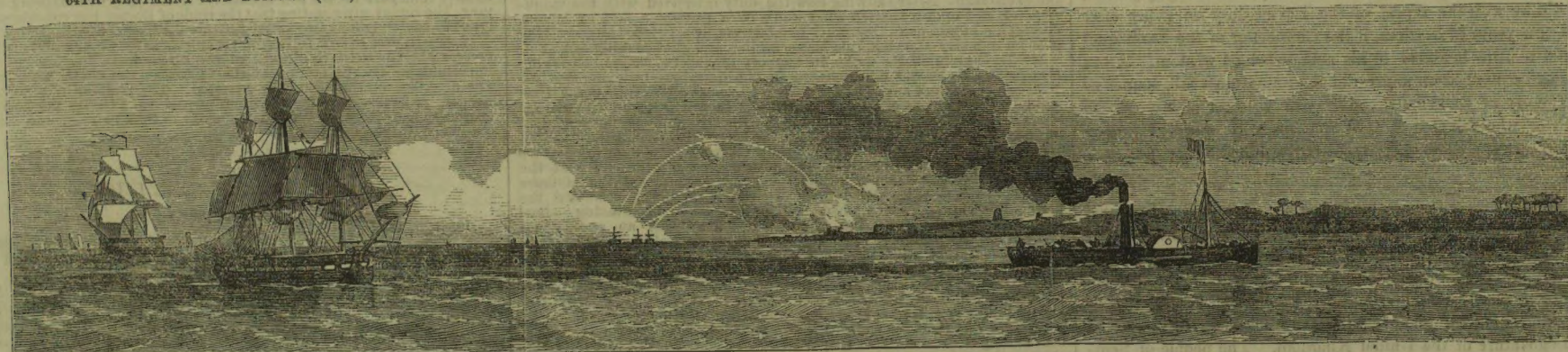


64TH REGIMENT AND BOMBAY (4TH) RIFLES.

THE "BOMBAY" STEAMER AGROUND.

GUN-BOATS.

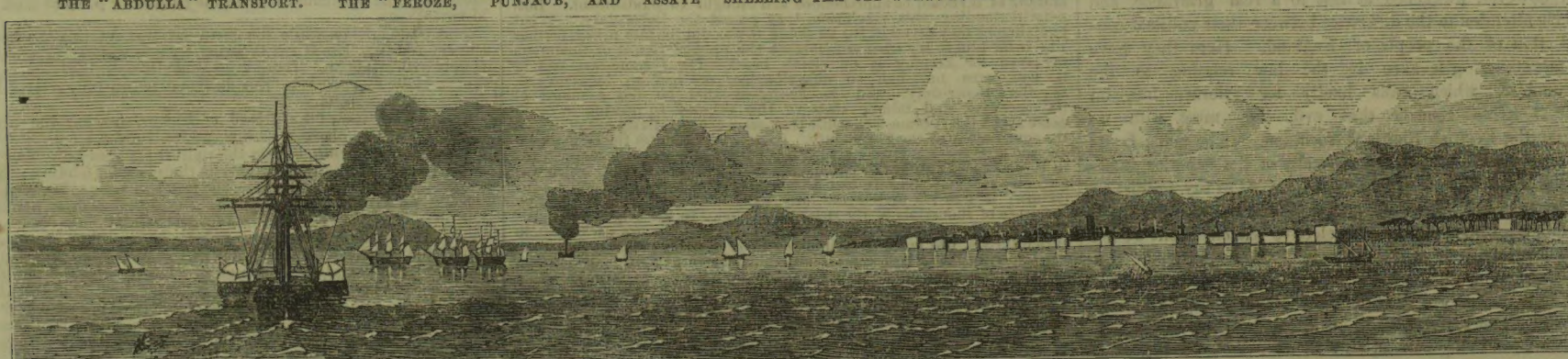
THE "SIR JAMSETJEE JEJEEBHOY." HALLILAH HILL.



THE "ABDULLA" TRANSPORT.

THE "FEROZE," "PUNJAB," AND "ASSAYE" SHELLING THE OLD PORTUGUESE BATTERY.

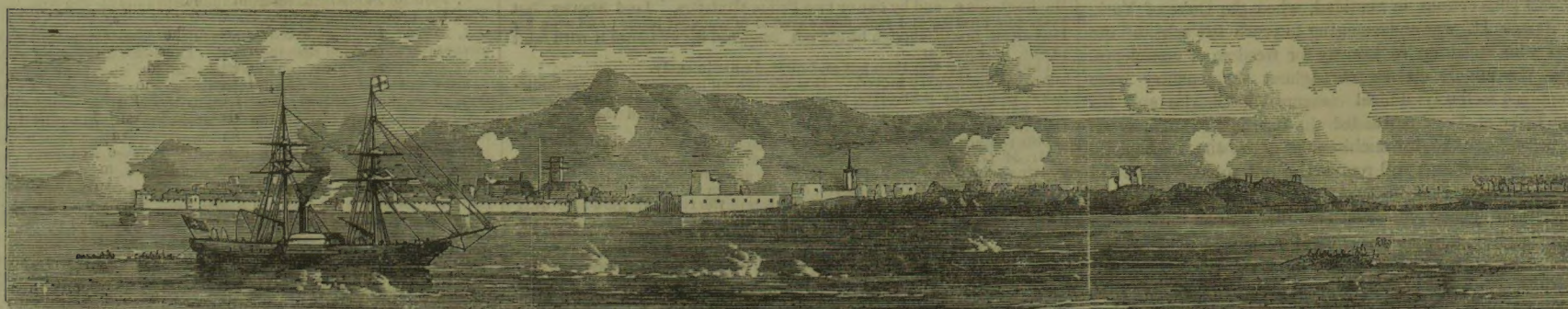
INDUS FLAT.



TRANSPORTS.

BUSHIRE, FROM THE "SEMIRAMIS."

PORT FOR DEFENCE OF WATER TANKS.



H.E.I.C. "SEMIRAMIS."

BUSHIRE.

RESIDENT'S HOUSE.

SANDBAG BATTERIES.



PARIS IMPROVEMENTS: THE PALAIS DE JUSTICE, SAINTE CHAPELLE, AND PONT AU CHANGE.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

IMPROVEMENTS IN PARIS.

PARIS is fast losing the picturesque features of its olden architecture; and although tortuous streets relaid out by line, and narrow streets widened, must be considered as important public improvements, this convenience is obtained by the sacrifice of many buildings endeared to memory by historical association, and to the artistic eye by picturesqueness of form.

Nevertheless, the Governments of France, during the last twenty years, have, in certain instances, shown a conservative spirit in the direction of the public works at Paris; and amongst the interesting edifices of past ages which have thus been spared are the Saint Chapelle and the Palais de Justice, both which have been restored with architectural fidelity, which is rendered the more striking by its juxtaposition with the modern streets. Hence we attach a higher value to these beautiful conservations of ancient art.

In the large engraving upon the preceding page, the artist, a resident in Paris, has shown with excellent effect the two beautiful edifices just mentioned. At the base of this group is the greater portion of the Pont au Change, which here crosses the Seine: a portion of the quay, with its colossal arches, serves as the framework of the picture.

The restoration and enlargement of the Palais de Justice has been a work of some twenty years. Insulated on three of its sides, and seen from the site chosen by our Artist, the physiognomy of the edifice is deeply characteristic of its gloomy history, and the wicked purposes to which it was long destined. If we except a house lost in the shade, and a few minor alterations in the main front of the edifice, it presents the imposing remains of one of the oldest palaces of the Kings of France, occupying a comparatively small space, but presenting a wonderful variety of architectural character. This vast edifice is nearly as old as the Palais des Thermes, the residence of the Roman Government of Gaul, as well as of the Kings of the first and second races. The Palais de Justice was used for public purposes long before the invasion of the Franks, as testified by the fact that in 1784 a bas-relief representing Mercury, apparently of the fourth century, was found during some excavations in a part of the building facing the Rue de la Barillerie. On the same stone was the figure of a ship being the well-known symbol of Paris. The Kings of France of the first race resided in this palace, and those of the third, until about the end of the fourteenth century. Robert, son of Hugh Capet, made considerable additions to it about the year 1000; it was entirely rebuilt by Philip le Bel in 1313; Louis XI., Charles VIII., and Louis XII., extended it; and Francis I. made it his residence in 1531. In 1776 the buildings adjoining the Saint Chapelle (seen on the left) were completely destroyed by fire. Since then the Palace has received constant improvements; and, since 1840, a considerable portion of it has been rebuilt.

The portion shown in the Illustration is the upper portion of the Doric colonnaded front. To the north the style of the building changes from the Italian to the Mixed Gothic of the fourteenth century, beginning with a body crowned with two segmental pediments, flanked by small turrets, and ending with a buttressed wing according to the original designs, which connects the palace with *La Tour de l'Horloge*, or the clock tower. The design of this wing is connected along the *Quai de l'Horloge*, and terminates at a round tower called the *Tour de César*, between which and the adjoining *Tour Bonbec* is the entrance to the *Conciergerie*. One of these towers has been occupied by Marie Antoinette, by Danton, Hebert, Chaumette, and Robespierre. At the time the palace was built these towers were already used as prisons, and several stories of gloomy cells descended as low as the waters of the Seine. It was here that the guillotine carts used to receive the victims of the Reign of Terror. Further on is a third round tower, connected with the former by a short curtain, but not shown in the view.

The *Tour de l'Horloge* was considerably lowered some years ago. The bell called *Tocsin du Palais*, now replaced in this tower, repeated the signal from St. Germain l'Auxerrois for the massacre of St. Bartholomew. The splendid clock which now adorns the *Quai aux Fleurs* was replaced there in 1852; it was carved by Germain Pilon in 1585, and occupies the place of a clock erected there by order of Charles V. The emblematic sculpture is coloured and gilded: it relates to the Order of Henry III., &c., supported by figures of Justice and Piety, by Pilon, who also sculptured the caryatid figures supporting the arch, and the angels supporting the arms which crown the pediment.

The Doric front is that of the famous hall of the *Pas Perdue*, built in 1622 by Jacques Desbrosses, the architect of the Luxembourg; it occupies the site of the celebrated great hall of the palace built by Louis XI., with magnificence equal to that of Sainte Chapelle, of which the roof and elegant steeple are seen on the left. The entire edifice has been engraved and described in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

Beneath is the Pont au Change, low and heavy, its piles chafed and worn by the stream, which here runs with considerable force. It is connected to another bridge by large vaults supporting the quay. This bridge was built between 1639 and 1647. Under Julian the Apostate there were only two bridges over the Seine; the small bridge over the other branch of the Seine, and the great bridge which took the name of Pont au Change, when Louis VII. allowed the money-changers to establish themselves in the houses along one of the sides of the roadway. The other side was exclusively taken up by goldsmiths.

The Palais de Justice has been restored and rebuilt by M. Duc, architect; the clock has been carved by M. Toussaint.

We have here, too, a glimpse of another phase of Parisian life. The large vaults along the river bank are used in the daytime as an abode by certain industrials, who rake up the sand of the Seine to pick up a scanty living, and who are in hope to find there what they have neither the strength nor the courage to strive after by regular work; moreover, despite the great numbers of houses recently built in Paris, lots of persons pass the night in this retreat of filth and squalor.

PATENT LAW.—The second edition of Mr. Peter Burke's "Compendium of the Patent Law as now Amended" has just appeared, and must in its present cheap form prove useful to inventors and to all interested in the protection of inventions. This edition has the further new feature of combining together a summary of all the points of patent law since the passing of the Patent Law Amendment Act of 1852.

PURE BREAD.—Recent analyses, microscopical and chemical, have shown bread to be as freely adulterated as any other article of food. Its universal consumption, therefore, renders purity a first-rate consideration; and a very near approximation appears to be made in the "pure family bread" made by E. Stevens, Cambridge-road, which Dr. Hassall has proved, by analysis, to consist entirely of wheat-flour, yeast, water, and a little salt; and we can add our testimony, that it is sweet to the taste, like home-made bread, is light, and altogether of excellent quality.

MALT-DUTY.—(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)—In your last week's impression, under the head of "Board of Trade Returns," you state that the duty on malt is 2s. per bushel, and five per cent. As this may mislead some of your numerous readers you will perhaps state that the duty is 2s. 7d. and five per cent.—R. JACKSON, Inland Revenue, Ash-Sandwich, Feb. 21, 1857.

PRESENTATION OF PLATE TO COLONEL THE HONOURABLE HENRY BOYLE BERNARD.—On the anniversary (Feb. 2nd) of the embodiment of the 87th South Cork Light Infantry Militia, a deputation from the officers of the regiment met at the Imperial Hotel, Cork, to present to their Colonel, the Hon. H. B. Bernard, two elegantly-chased silver jugs and stands ornamented with flowers and medallions, and bearing the following inscription:—"Presented to Colonel the Honourable Henry Boyle Bernard, commanding 87th South Cork Light Infantry, by the Officers of his Regiment, as a sincere token of their esteem and regard."

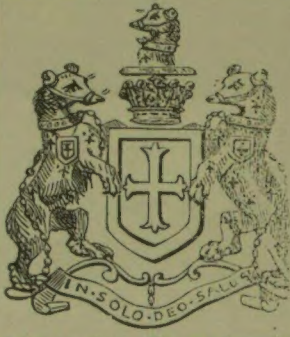
PHOTOGRAPHS.—The Emperor of Austria has awarded to Messrs. Negretti and Zambra, the well-known meteorological instrument-makers, of Hatton-garden, a gold medal for their series of stereoscopic views of the Crystal Palace.

THE COMET OF JUNE.—The Paris *Presse* says:—"It is truly lamentable to see the excitement produced by the indiscretion of a journal which announced as the prediction of a German astronomer the destruction of the world by a comet on the 13th June next. This ridiculous news, repeated by echoes great and small, has spread over Europe with amazing rapidity. It is now the universal topic of conversation in every class of society. What is there—not to speak of truth—but of probability in the prediction relative to the comet said to be expected on the 13th June? Nothing—absolutely nothing." Our contemporary then enters into an astronomical argument, showing the absurdity of the popular impressions on this point. It is calculated that at Paris no fewer than 300 persons every night look through the huge telescopes for the famous comet of Charles V.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

THE EARL OF HAREWOOD.

THE serious accident which this amiable and respected nobleman met with while out with the Bramham-park hounds, on the 24th January, terminated fatally on the 22nd inst. The Earl, after lingering in an uncertain and precarious state, expired on the 22nd, at his seat, Harewood House, Yorkshire, in the presence of nearly all the members of his afflicted family. His Lordship, the Right Hon. Henry Lascelles, third Earl of Harewood, Viscount Lascelles, and Baron Lascelles of Harewood, in the county of York, Lord Lieutenant of the West Riding, and Major of the Yorkshire Hussar Yeomanry, was the second son (his elder brother, Edward, Viscount Lascelles, died in 1839) of Henry, second Earl of Harewood, by his wife, Henrietta, eldest daughter of Lieut.-General Sir John Saunders



Sebright, Bart. He was born the 11th June, 1797; and, when young, went into the British Army. He was present with his regiment (the Grenadier Guards) at the battle of Waterloo. He afterwards retired from the service; and, for several Parliaments prior to the passing of the Reform Bill, represented, on Conservative principles, Northallerton in the House of Commons. He succeeded, in 1841, his father, who died suddenly while returning from hunting. He married, the 5th July, 1823, Lady Louisa Thynne, second daughter of Thomas, second Marquis of Bath, by whom he leaves five sons and six daughters. His eldest daughter is the wife of Charles Henry Mills, Esq., of Hillington-place, Middlesex; and his second daughter is married to the present Lord Wharfedale. The Earl is succeeded by his eldest son, Henry Viscount Lascelles, now fourth Earl of Harewood, who was born in 1824, and married, in 1845, the Lady Elizabeth De Burgh, eldest daughter of the Marquis of Clanricarde, by which lady, who died suddenly on the 26th February, 1854, he has four sons and two daughters.

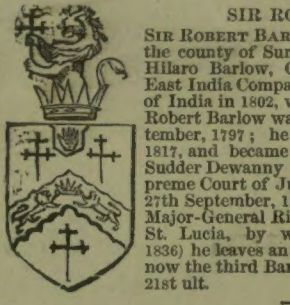


THE COUNTESS OF HUNTINGDON.

THE RIGHT HON. ELIZABETH ANNE, COUNTESS OF HUNTINGDON, was the daughter and heiress of the late Richard Power, Esq., of Clashmore, county of Waterford, and the wife of Francis Theophilus Henry, present Earl of Huntingdon, to whom she was married the 8th Sept. 1835, and had issue a son, Francis Power Plantagenet, Lord Hastings, and three daughters. Her Ladyship, to the deep regret of all who knew her, died on the 13th inst., at Ringmeen, Queenstown, county Cork.

THE EARL OF CASTLE-STUART.

THE RIGHT HON. EDWARD STUART, third Earl of Castle-Stuart, Viscount Stuart and Baron Castle-Stuart, in the county Tyrone, in the Peerage of Ireland, and a Baronet of Nova Scotia, was the eldest son of Robert, the second Earl, by his wife Jimima, only daughter of Colonel Robinson, R.A. He was born the 11th Sept. 1807, and married, in Feb. 1830, Emmeline, only surviving child of the late Benjamin Bathurst, son of the Right Rev. Henry Bathurst, Bishop of Norwich. He succeeded his father, as third Earl, on the 10th June, 1854; and died on the 20th inst., of gout in the stomach, at East Cliff, Dover. As his Lordship has had no issue, his honours are inherited by his next brother, the Hon. Charles Andrew Knox Stuart, now fourth Earl of Castle-Stuart, who was born the 23rd April, 1816, and married, in 1835, Charlotte Raffles Drury, only daughter of the late Quintin Thompson, Esq., and niece of the celebrated Governor of Java, Sir Thomas Stamford Raffles; by this lady the Earl has an only son and seven daughters. The house of Stuart, Earls of Castle-Stuart, is of the blood royal of Scotland: it descends from King Robert II.'s third son, the famous Robert Duke of Albany, and Regent of Scotland. The Barony of Castle-Stuart dated from the 7th Nov. 1619; the Earldom was created on the 29th Dec. 1800.



SIR ROBERT BARLOW, BART.

SIR ROBERT BARLOW, second Baronet, of Fir Grove, in the county of Surrey, was the fourth son of Sir George Hilary Barlow, G.C.B., an eminent civil officer of the East India Company, and Provisional Governor-General of India in 1802, who was created a Baronet in 1803. Sir Robert Barlow was born at Calcutta, on the 24th September, 1797; he entered the East India Civil Service in 1817, and became eventually one of the Judges of the Sudder Dewanny and Nizamut Adawlut, or Native Supreme Court of Judicature at Calcutta. He married, the 27th September, 1832, Augusta Louisa, third daughter of Major-General Richard Augustus Seymour, Governor of St. Lucia, by which lady (who died in November, 1836) he leaves an only child, Morison, his successor, and now the third Baronet. Sir Robert Barlow died on the 21st ult.

SIR J. A. DUNLOP AGNEW WALLACE, BART.

GENERAL SIR JOHN ALEXANDER DUNLOP AGNEW WALLACE, K.C.B., seventh Baronet, of Craigie, Ayrshire, Colonel of the 88th Regiment (the Connaught Rangers), was the son of Sir Thomas Dunlop Wallace, the sixth Baronet, by his first wife, Eglantine, daughter of Sir William Maxwell, Bart., of Monreith, and sister of Jane, fourth Duchess of Gordon. He was born the 10th April, 1775, and entered the British Army in 1787, when but twelve years old, and served for the almost unprecedented period of seventy years, during the whole of which time his name was always on the active list. He first joined the 74th Regiment in India, and was Aide-de-Camp to his maternal uncle, Colonel Hamilton Maxwell, then in command of a division of Lord Cornwallis's army, and he was subsequently Aide-de-Camp to Lord Cornwallis himself. He was present at the storming of Pagoda-hill, and of Tipposa's lines and camp, and at the storming of Kistnagurree and the battle of Seringapatam. He was in three general actions before he was fifteen years of age. In 1796 he was at the reduction of Minorca. From thence he joined the army under Sir Ralph Abercromby, and was at the landing at Aboukir, in Egypt, at the battles before Alexandria, and at those of Ramanieh, Rosetta, and Grand Cairo. In all these famous affairs he led the grenadiers of the 58th Regiment. He next commanded the Connaught Rangers in the Peninsula. He was a Colonel at the battle of Busaco, and there, at the head of the 45th and 88th Regiments, made a celebrated charge, which is said to have secured the victory. Colonel Wallace on that brilliant occasion had scarcely re-formed his line when Lord Wellington, accompanied by Marshal Beresford and a number of other officers, galloped up to him, and, seizing him warmly by the hand, said, "Wallace, I never witnessed a more gallant charge than that you made just now." In the public despatches of the Duke of Wellington Wallace has prominent mention made of his conduct at Busaco. The Duke's despatches tell no less honourably of him at the battle of Fuentes d'Onor, and again, at the head of a brigade, at Salamanca. Soon after this last engagement a severe attack of fever and ague rendered Colonel Wallace incapable for a time of further exertion; but he again commanded a brigade in the army of occupation in Paris in 1815. When retiring from the active command of the Connaught Rangers, on his promotion to the rank of Major-General, in 1819, he was presented with a jewelled sword by the officers of the regiment. In the year 1831 he was appointed to the Colonelcy of this same regiment. He received the gold medal and two clasps for actions in the Peninsula, and the silver medal for Egypt; also the Order of the Crescent from the Sultan. He was made a K.C.B. in 1833, and became a General in 1851.

General Sir Alexander Wallace succeeded his father as seventh Baronet in 1835: he married, the 23rd June, 1829, Janet, daughter of William Rodger, Esq., and leaves four sons and one daughter. The gallant General died at his seat on the shores of Loch Ryan, in Wigtonshire, on the 10th inst. He was one of the last of the Peninsular veterans. He is succeeded in his Baronetcy and estate by his eldest son, William, a Captain in the Grenadier Guards. The Wallaces, Baronets, spring from the same race as the renowned Sir William Wallace, of whom General Sir Alexander Dunlop Wallace just deceased was not an unfit representative. Sir Alexander's grandmother, Frances Anne Wallace, an heiress, was the celebrated Mrs. Dunlop, the friend of Robert Burns; and his mother, Eglantine Maxwell, was sister of the famous Duchess of Gordon, whose four daughters married the Dukes of Manchester, Richmond, and Bedford, and the Marquis Cornwallis—on whose Staff in India Sir Alexander began his brave and honourable career.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

The French Emperor and Empress took an airing on Sunday last in an open carriage to the Bois de Boulogne.

The Duke of Wellington will preside at the next anniversary dinner of the Printers' Pension Society.

The Prince of Nassau left Paris on Saturday last to visit the palace and forest of Fontainebleau.

Lord Napier was one of the passengers on board the *Persia*, which left Liverpool for New York on Saturday last.

The Duke and Duchess of Montpensier were expected at Madrid on the 22nd, on a pleasure tour.

His Highness the Prince of Leiningen, accompanied by Captain Thurston, has been staying in Oxford during the last few days on a visit to J. E. Codrington, B.A. of Brasenose College, nephew of General Codrington, late Commander of the forces in the Crimea.

The British Minister at Brussels gave a grand fête on the 13th inst. to the Diplomatic Corps, the Belgian Ministers, and the members of the English aristocracy resident in the capital. The Count of Flanders and the Prince de Schaumbourg-Lippe were among the guests.

The Lord Bishop of London, having now gone into residence in London House, will preach at St. James's Church in the afternoon on the first and third Sundays in each month while he is in town.

The Emperor of Austria has ordered that a monument to Leonardo da Vinci shall be erected at Milan, and that his fresco, in the Convent delle Grazie, in that city, representing the "Lord's Supper," shall be restored.

Mr. Charles Alison, Oriental Secretary to her Majesty's Embassy at Constantinople, has been appointed Secretary of Embassy to the same mission, in the place of Lord Napier, lately named Minister to the United States.

A grand ball was given at Carlsruhe on the 14th inst. at the Museum, and was attended by the Grand Duke Michael of Russia and the Princess Cecilia of Baden, whom he is to marry.

Letters from Beyrout, dated the 6th, mention that Sir Henry Bulwer, the English Commissioner for the Principalities, had arrived in that city the previous evening from Constantinople. Sir Henry, it is said, is charged with a special mission to Syria.

Baron Koller is appointed Austrian Minister at Berlin. He is replaced as Plenipotentiary in the commission of the Danubian Principalities by M. Von Lichmann, Privy Councillor.

Sir Moses Montefiore, Bart., will shortly leave on another pilgrimage to the Holy Land, accompanied by Lady Montefiore as far as Italy, where her Ladyship will remain for the benefit of her health.

The Grand Duke Constantine of Russia arrived at Frankfurt on the evening of the 7th inst. from Hanover, and the next morning, after receiving the military authorities of the place and the officers of the garrison, left for Darmstadt.

The King of the Belgians has ordered M. Dufour, jeweller Brussels, to reset a diamond necklace for the Princess Charlotte, at a cost of 100,000*fr.* The necklace is to be formed of part of the brilliants which belonged to the Princess Charlotte of England, his Majesty's first wife, and which the King has preserved with religious respect.

Sir John McNeill has accepted the office of Honorary President of the Associated Societies of the University of Edinburgh, in the room of Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton, Bart.

Mr. William Smith O'Brien has been summoned to attend the Grand Jury of the county Limerick at the ensuing assizes. This is the first time he has received a notification of the same character since his return.

At the Hôtel de Ventes, in the Rue Drouot, at Paris, full-length portraits of George III. of England and his Queen, by Sir Joshua Reynolds, were sold last week for 1500*fr.*

We regret to hear that Mr. Serjeant Wilkins continues seriously indisposed, and with little hope of early recovery.

Two young Austrians and two Turks have been admitted into the French Naval College for Engineers.

Messrs. Hachette and Co., the Paris publishers, are now publishing a complete and uniform translation of the works of Dickens—the first that has been attempted in France.

Mr. C. S. Whitmore, of the Oxford Circuit, has been appointed Judge of the Southwark County Court, in the room of Mr. George Clive, now M.P. for Hereford.

Accounts from Athens to the 14th inst. state that the Greek Senate had rejected the financial arrangement concerted with the protecting Powers.

The French Government has appointed two Consuls to Persia—one to Tauris, and another who is to reside at Shiraz—during the time Bushire is occupied by the British troops.

The barque *China*, now on its way from the Cape of Good Hope to London, has on board a young elephant, a present to the captain from the King of Siam, and which, if it survive the voyage, he intends presenting to the Queen.

The Royal Agricultural Society hold their annual meeting at Salisbury this summer.

The Rhine is now completely clear of the ice which a short time back obstructed its navigation, and the bridge of boats at Cologne has been replaced.

The *Sydney Empire* reports the discovery of a rich gold-field near the Manning River. The *Melbourne Herald* states that three nuggets, weighing respectively 331, 323, and 189 ounces, had been picked up at Korong diggings.

All the secondary German Powers, it is expected, will follow the example of Austria, and issue a general amnesty for political offences committed in 1848-49-50.

In consequence of the great amount of business in the County Court of Liverpool, it is proposed to appoint a second judge.

At La Rochelle, on Monday week, three suns appeared in the heavens, placed in the same line, the real one in the centre. The two mock suns were of course less brilliant than the real one.

The Post-office authorities propose to place clerks on board the Australian mail-packets between Alexandria and England, in order that the mails may be sorted on board.

The Copenhagen *Flyveposten* announces that the Danish Note on the Duchies to the two great German Powers will be dispatched during the present week, and will be accompanied by a detailed memorandum and two annexes.

A sum of £10,000 has been advanced to the Master of the Mint towards defraying the cost of the Baltic medals, the entire estimate for which is £13,412*5s.*

The Armenians who inhabit the Ottoman Empire, and who form a community of about 3,000,000 individuals, have resolved to appoint a special agent at London and Paris to protect their interests. Their choice has fallen on a member of the family Duz, one of the most influential Armenian families throughout the East.

A memorial from the principal houses in the trade with Singapore was presented on Monday to the President of the Board of Control, against an act contemplated by the Legislative Council of India for levying tonnage dues at that port.

Messrs. Croskey and Co., the agents of the Hamburg and Brazilian mail steamer *Petropolis*, about to start for Rio from Southampton, have been prohibited by the official authorities from making a collection of letters for the Brazils.

The city of Bordeaux has nominated a deputation, taking from the Municipal Council and the Chamber of Commerce, and headed by the Mayor, to proceed to Paris, to support the pretensions of Bordeaux to be the port of one of the projected lines of Transatlantic steamers.

Russia has commenced negotiations for the construction of a railway from Mehed, near Tiflis, to Teheran.

The negotiations for the junction of the Prussian and Russian Railways are nearly completed. The arrangements respecting the junction of the Warsaw and St. Petersburg line with the East Prussian, and the Warsaw and Cracow line with the Upper Silesian, are settled.

Letters from Smyrna state that some valuable coal mines in the Valley of the Meander, about forty miles from that city, have lately attracted attention, and are likely to be made available for commercial purposes.

Lord Ebrington has presented to Harrow School seven massive silver cups, in cases lined with velvet and satin, to be held by the champion for the time being of the following games and pastimes, namely—running, leaping, swimming, batting, bowling, fielding, and rackets.

A deputation from the Strangers' Home for Asiatic Seamen had an interview with Lord Stanley of Alderley on Wednesday, at the Board of Trade.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THE debate on the Budget, with Lord Palmerston's majority of 80, has been followed by Lord Derby's onslaught on behalf of the Chinese. His Lordship's address purported to be upon a grave subject; and one is therefore not surprised, knowing the peculiar mode in which it usually pleases him to handle such questions, to find the report of his speech studded all over with "a laugh," "laughter," and the like. His concluding appeal, however, to the fathers of the Church to assist him in damaging the Ministry was in another key, and most effectively solemn. Remembering how much good talk was got out of Don Pacifico in the same illustrious assemblage a few years ago, it is not surprising that the acts and punishment of Mr. Commissioner Yeh should have procured for the subject the dignity of an adjourned debate. The decision of the Lords upon the subject is not unimportant; but the announcement of the sailing this week of a vessel, the *Northfleet*, "with shot and shell," for Canton, is as truthful an index to the opinions of England on the Chinese question. The people of this country will not be led away by factious eloquence or false sentiment, and John Chinaman is no martyr, but an obstinate demi-savage.

Government are unconvinced by the arguments in favour of a new expedition in search of Sir John Franklin, and have intimated that no more exploring vessels will be sent out. Those who advocate renewed research contend that we have all but exhausted the field, and have clearly ascertained where the missing navigators are not, leaving for examination an intermediate tract, of no very great extent, and which may be reached with no very great peril, where either our heroes or their remains will be found. They further dwell upon the immense moral effect which would be produced upon our sailors by a final testimony that England never abandons her children, wherever they may be. But the Admiralty has made up its mind that Franklin is dead; has written it down in its books; and will hear no more upon the subject. This intimation, and the very summary dismissal of a proposal by Sir J. Walsley to refer our representative system to a Select Committee, have been the chief incidents of the week, in addition to the grander debate. We must not omit to mention that, though Mr. John Macgregor, of Glasgow, did not vote upon the expulsion of Mr. James Sadleir, of Tipperary, he has since marked his sense of the fitness of things by taking—not the Hundreds, he was too delicately minded to ask those; but the other nominal office kept for retiring members. "Macgregor hath vanished for ever and aye" from the House of Commons. *Apropos* whereof, Mr. Humphrey Brown, of Tewkesbury, has been to his constituents, and has "explained" his connection with the British Bank; that is to say, he has declared himself to be spotless, but bound by oath not to divulge the secrets that would prove his innocence. One would have supposed that an oath of secrecy to a dissolved bank was like an oath of loyalty to an extinct dynasty; but we must wait for legal disclosures before we judge Mr. Humphrey Brown's tender conscience.

According to organs of some authority, the dispute between England and Persia is adjusted, and the war is over. It is stated that all the points of importance insisted on by England have been conceded, and especially her demand to have a Consul wherever Russia has one. The *Moniteur* has published the treaty between Persia and France, and the mode in which the high contracting parties are described in it is too astounding to be overlooked. Beginning with an invocation to the Deity, "the clement and merciful," the treaty is made between—

His high Majesty Napoleon, whose elevation is equal to that of the planet Saturn, the sovereign of whom the sun is a standard, the shining star on the firmament of crowned heads, the sun of the heaven of royalty, the ornament of the diadem, the splendour of the standards and of the Imperial signs, the illustrious and liberal monarch; and his Majesty, elevated like the planet Saturn, the Sovereign to whom the sun is a standard, whose splendour and magnificence equal that of the starred sky; the sublime Sovereign, the monarch whose weapons are numerous as the stars, whose greatness reminds us of that of Djemschid, whose magnificence equals that of Darius, the heir to the crown and throne of the Keyanides, the sublime and absolute Emperor of all Persia.

It is a consolation that we are already in alliance with the first of these tremendous persons, and the sooner we propitiate the second the better.

The dreadful coalpit explosion, near Barnsley, continues of course to occupy general attention. Upwards of 170 lives have been sacrificed, and this in a mine which appears to have been deservedly regarded as a model of ventilation. Practical men seem to think that some more stringent measure of police might be advantageously adopted with regard to the management of mines. The industrious, but most obstinate, miner himself is, generally speaking, unfit to be intrusted with the care of his own life. The fact that the Davy lamp gives a comparatively bad light is enough to ensure for it his dislike; and we are acquainted with a proprietor of mines who, insisting upon the lamp being placed in every labourer's hand, was answered by the manager, "Of course, Sir, it shall be done, but the men will put their picks through the wire." How can one deal with such men? In the present case, however, the ventilation of the mine was so good that the naked-candle practice was deemed to be safe, and the unhappy men who have died are supposed to be held blameless.

The generosity of the English public is very rapidly evoked by a tale of sorrow, and it is creditable to us that it is so. But the wisdom of the course which we have more than once suggested to the charitable—namely, that they should confide their alms to the sitting magistracies—has been abundantly proved in the case of a woman called, or calling herself, Allsop, who, with a story of having lost five sons in the service of the Sovereign, at once enlisted all sympathies in her behalf. To those accustomed to such matters there was a flavour of the begging-letter about her style; but at sixty real misfortune often takes a whining tone, and, in short, all hearts were opened, and many purses. A letter from Colonel Phipps, containing an excuse rather than a reason for not extending to her the Royal bounty, was assailed with a good deal of the abuse which is usually kept quite ready and hot for supposed error at Court. But the magistrate investigates the case, and the woman turns out to be an impostor, the five sons a fable, and her reference to a legal gentleman as a witness unwarranted. She is an old begging-letter writer. But for the magisterial filter, large sums, in addition to what had been privately sent her, would have thus been unworthily applied. It would be well, by the way, if donors who send money for a specific object would place their charity at the discretion of the Bench in the event of such object proving an Allsop.

Mr. Rowland Hill's plan for facilitating the delivery of letters, by the division of London into districts, has been at once comprehended and accepted by the public; and we are told that, out of the 200,000 letters of the morning delivery, something like 120,000 are already found to bear the postal initials. This is satisfactory, showing that the practical character of the plan is recognised.

The *Etna* left Southampton on Tuesday last with the first overland Australian mail. She will wait at Alexandria for the first homeward Australian mail, which is expected at Suez by the steam-packet *Oneida*.

MUSIC.

THE Concerts of the AMATEUR MUSICAL SOCIETY go on with undiminished spirit and success. That of Monday last was one of the best they have given. The room was overflowing with fashionable company; the music was of the most classical description; and the execution, on the whole, was not unworthy of the music. The great orchestral performance of the evening was Mozart's symphony in C, known by the name of the "Jupiter," which was played with great fire and laudable precision. The other orchestral pieces were Mozart's overture to the "Zauberflöte" and Meyerbeer's overture to the "Etoile du Nord." An extraordinary sensation was created by the appearance of Miss Lindo, a young singer unknown to the public. Her entrance into the orchestra, accordingly, was scarcely noticed, but her voice was no sooner heard than every ear became attentive. She sang Mendelssohn's magnificent song, with Goethe's words, "Suleika," with such vocal power, such passionate expression, and such pure and beautiful execution, that a burst of acclamations from every part of the room spoke the surprise and pleasure of the audience. Loudly called upon, she repeated the song with greater confidence, and, if possible, increased applause. This success was of the most legitimate kind, for the young lady (whose aspect was remarkably modest and prepossessing) was evidently an entire stranger. There was a general buzz of "Who is she?" "Where does she come from?" And we learned from our own inquiries of that sort that this was her first appearance in public; that she is the sister-in-law of Mr. Aguilar, one of our most distinguished pianists; that she has received a thorough musical education in Frankfurt, and now contemplates adopting music as a profession. That her career will be successful cannot be doubted. She afterwards sang "The Alpine Shepherd's Song," a new and beautiful composition of Mr. Waley's, and completely confirmed the impression she had previously made. The other vocal pieces were Hatton's four-part song, "When evening's twilight," and Horsley's famous glee, "By Celia's arbour." They were both well sung by Messrs. Heming, Coleridge, Bushby, and Stroud; and both were encored.

MR. CHARLES SALAMAN, the eminent composer and pianist, is delivering, at the Marylebone Literary and Scientific Institution, a series of three lectures on "Music in Connection with the Dance." Two lectures have been given; the third is announced for Tuesday next, the 3rd March. The first was on music and the dance from the earliest times to the Roman Empire; the second embraced the period of the middle ages and down to the eighteenth century; the last is to be on national dances and national dance-music. The lectures are illustrated by vocal and instrumental music, in the performance of which Mr. Salaman is assisted by Miss Williams, a very pleasing young singer, and Mr. Deichmann, an excellent violinist. In the treatment of his subject Mr. Salaman travels over a vast field both of space and time. His lectures contain a great quantity of curious matter, evidently the fruit of varied and extensive reading. The whole human race have danced and sung ever since the world began; and Mr. Salaman endeavours to show how they have been dancing and singing during all that time in every age and every country. He has ransacked for information the pages of poets, dramatists, historians, and geographers, both ancient and modern; and his gleanings have been ample as well as interesting. It is impossible for us to give even an outline of the multitude of topics which he introduces—the bare syllabus of one of his lectures would form a lengthy article. But, having described generally the design and subject of the lectures, we can add, with truth, that he carries out his plan with great ability and success; that he writes and speaks very agreeably; and that his manner, as well as his matter, never fails to arrest and keep alive the attention of his hearers.

MISS ARABELLA GODDARD'S SECOND CONCERT, on Tuesday evening, was, if possible, even more brilliant and successful than her first. It was attended by a crowded audience, including many of our musical celebrities. The great feature of this series of concerts is Miss Goddard's performance of Beethoven's pianoforte sonatas, written in the latest period of his career—works so original in form and style, and so full of enormous difficulties, that, from the illustrious composer's own day down to the present time, they have been generally deemed unplayable and unintelligible. But Miss Goddard is causing a change of opinion as to these compositions in the mind of every one who hears her perform them; for she shows not only that they can be executed, but that they are full of the most exquisite beauties of the art. As musical execution on every instrument has long been progressive, and is now as progressive as ever, we have little doubt that the day will come when even our amateurs will successfully attack difficulties which only Miss Goddard and a very small number of similarly-gifted artists are at present able to conquer.

THE arrangements for the NORWICH FESTIVAL of this year are now nearly completed. It is to be held on the 15th, 16th, 17th, and 18th days of September. The sacred pieces are to be the "Messiah" (of course), Beethoven's "Mount of Olives," Mendelssohn's "Lobgesang," Mozart's "Requiem," and Spohr's "Hymn to God." Haydn's "Seasons," too, will form a part of one of the morning performances. At the evening concerts there will be selections from Macfarren's "May-day," Hatton's "Robin Hood," and Pierson's "Faust." Howard Glover's "Tam o' Shanter" will be the finale to one of the concerts. We learn, with much regret, that the committee have declined to accept Mr. Henry Leslie's new oratorio of "Judith," on the score of the expense of copying the music, and some other items, which, it is said, would amount altogether to £120. An entirely new orchestra, on a plan approved by Mr. Benedict, the director of the festival, is about to be erected.

BOSTON POPULAR CONCERTS.—Unequalled success has attended this project; the attendances have averaged nearly 1000 persons, and the performances have given perfect satisfaction. At the next concert (the fifth of the series) Rudersdorf, Amadei, Braham, Irving, Randerger, and Mr. Thirde, the able organist of St. Botolph's, will appear in the "Stabat Mater" and a grand miscellaneous selection. The same distinguished party will also, in the last week in March, visit Spalding, Lincoln, Spilsby, and Louth. Their talent is certain to command large audiences.

MR. and MRS. HOWARD PAUL give their comic and musical entertainment, "Patchwork," at the Free-trade Hall, Manchester, on the 3rd of March.

THE THEATRES.

OLYMPIC.—Under the title of "A Sheep in Wolf's Clothing," Mr. Tom Taylor has presented another version of Mdm. Girardin's "Une Femme qui Défeste son Mari," which was produced on Thursday week. The subject is anglicised, and Colonel Kirke substituted for the agent of Robespierre. The arrival of Colonel Churchill with Kirke's disgrace leads to the dénouement. Mrs. Stirling supports the character of the heroine.

STRAND.—A new piece at this theatre, entitled "Pride and Poverty; or, the Real Poor of London," demands notice. It is an adaptation from a French melodrama, similarly called "Les Pauvres de Paris;" the copyright of which, it appears, has been secured by Mr. Charles Reade, but which Messrs. Benjamin Barnett and J. B. Johnstone are said to have invaded. Mr. Reade has threatened proceedings against the manager; but we have not heard that any have commenced.

ADELPHI.—"In and Out of Place" is the title of a new Transatlantic trifle for the display of the various talents of Mrs. Barney Williams. As a play-acting maid-servant, who does all manner of mischief, and appears in many characters, appropriately costumed, she has ample opportunity of proving her versatility. Whether as dancer, "Yankee gal," or French, German, and Irish applicant for service to the half-silly old gentleman who has just discharged her, she was equally excellent, and it is impossible to name her best assumption. With all this eccentricity there is, as we have remarked on former occasions, an elegance of demeanour in Mrs. Williams which imparts to her style a peculiar grace, and places her in the first rank of artists.

LYCEUM.—This theatre added on Monday a new farce to its repertoire which is likely to maintain a permanent place on the boards. It is written by Messrs. E. H. Yates and W. Harrington, and is whimsically entitled "A Friend from Leatherhead." The business of the piece is as whimsical as its appellation, and consists of a number of extravagant details that provoke immoderate laughter. The plot scarcely admits of being told, so thoroughly accidental (to use a technical term) is it in its elements. We must, however, give it in brief. Captain Squiffen (Mr. J. G. Shore) has a wife (Mrs. B. White), who is persecuted in her walks with the attentions of a bizarrely-

dressed gallant, who turns out to be Squiffen's friend from Leatherhead, Mr. Loophole (Mr. Toole). This gentleman feels the perplexity of his situation, and makes various attempts to avoid an interview with the lady. He resorts to the most unexpected expedients; among these, he disguises himself in the shawl and bonnet of the lady turned inside out, and forms a skirt for his legs out of the sofa cover; making, at the same time, the pillow serve for a mock infant; and in this manner he meets the lady with a tale of desertion, the guilt of which he fixes on Shanks, her footman. When all expedients fail him he precipitates himself from the window, through the roof of a greenhouse, and is brought up again in a desperate condition, in a state of wild terror, and his arms and legs encased in flower-pots. Of course the whole weight of the performance rested with Mr. Toole, who exerted himself with the utmost energy, and accomplished a very remarkable success. The performance, in fact, was in every respect a triumph.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

NOTTINGHAM MEETING opened, like Lincoln, with the triumph of Mr. Thomas Carr and his good-looking Apathy (another of his clever purchases); and Greenwich Fair, a most lengthy, promising filly, carried 5 lb. extra, and again left Schriften and Sir Isaac Newton, and seven others, labouring in her wake. Minos, the old racer, who "tried" Verdant Green last year, was backed at Nottingham for the Liverpool Steeplechase; and our favourite little black Saunterer, about whom 25 to 1 was taken, was almost the only horse fancied for the Derby.

The Liverpool Spring Meeting stands for Tuesday and Wednesday, on which latter day the broken-down racers will gallop over or die beside the fences (which are so dangerous from their very smallness); and as the greater proportion of the crack steeplechase riders are out of it, owing to Mr. Topham's light-weight mania, the whole thing will become a greater burlesque than ever. Alas for the days of Lottery, Peter Simple, Chantry, and The Chandler! The racing events there excite little or no interest, and the highest weights in the handicaps are 8 st. 7 lb. Mr. Johnson is, we are glad to see, adopting the 8 st. 12 lb. scale almost universally in his handicaps. Soothsayer, by Augur, is among the two-year-old entries at Liverpool, and is said to be, barring Longbow's and Canezou's son, Streamer, one of the very best-looking two-year-olds John Scott has. A very large sum is said to have been refused for Augur, whose two-year-old stock generally are very fine. Blink Bonny is becoming rather a better favourite, owing, it is said, to the visit of two well-known "Corner" speculators to Malton, who were allowed by Mr. L'Anson to look her over and watch her gallop, and expressed themselves perfectly satisfied. This is at variance with the "shot of grease," the "ragged as a bear," and "not grown an inch" averments; but still we feel no confidence in her chance. No one enters her stable but her trainer and his son, who rides her in her gallops, and will be in the saddle on the Derby day. Barbelle, the dam of Van Tromp and Flying Dutchman, has quitted the stud, and will be permitted to "lie rest" for the remainder of her days. She has been most uncertain for some years past, and has just proved not to be in foal to West Australian, the sire of her yearling Kirkleatham, who was purchased when a foal by Mr. Craufurd at, it is said, 1000 guineas, the price which was also given for the Flying Dutchman in his foalhood.

Old Jim Morgan (who disputes the seniority among huntsmen with Williamson) has shown one of the very finest runs, if not the finest run, of the season, with Lord Lonsdale's harriers, after an outlying fox, for sixteen miles across the Vale of Aylesbury country; his third son, Goddard, who quite ranks as a horseman with his elder brothers "Ben" and "Jack," leading all the way, with the Hon. Mrs. Villiers, Lord Petre, and Jim himself, not far behind. We wish we could say that two Leicestershire huntsmen were able to go in Jim's style, as there are complaints loud and deep among Meltonians that they are never up at a critical moment to help their hounds, and that fox after fox is lost by their absence. That "Prince of Heavy Weights," Mr. Little Gilmour, has, we regret to say, broken his collarbone, over a nasty little blind fence, and the first slight will, therefore, lose one of its most constant faces for a few weeks. That rare sportsman, Earl Fitzhardinge, has also had a severe fall, no light matter for a man of his age and weight. Mr. Henley Greaves is giving up the Essex country, where there has been some unpleasantness about destroying foxes, but we trust that he will not have to seek long for another, as, despite of his immense weight, he is one of the most ardent foxhunters we possess, and has a capital huntsman in John Treadwell. Mr. Collyer's hounds—forty couples—are now for sale in one or more lots, and we hear that the Norfolk hounds will discontinue hunting very shortly. Joe Maiden goes on gallantly with his new "American leg," and hunts the hounds regularly once a week. A great effort is being made to get up sufficient money to buy an annuity for old Dick Christian, whose facetious "Hunting Recollections" are causing not a little amusement at present. The old fellow will never see seventy-eight again, and has had a family of twenty-one to bring up on his hard-earned wages. Perhaps no man alive ever knew so well how to train a hunter, and as we once heard one of the best Meltonians say, "Whenever old Dick goes, the management of horses will go with him."

The celebrated greyhound, Blue Light, has died just in the very zenith of his fame, as Mr. Borron's kennel is beating everything before it. The "March hares" will have plenty of work cut out for them. Bedlington and Barnton Meetings are fixed for Monday; Chatterley Castle for Tuesday; Nottingham (Open) for Tuesday, &c.; Kyle (Auchinleck) and Great Crossby for Thursday; Ardrossan Club for Thursday and Friday; and Baschurch for Friday. The coursers are rather pugnacious on paper at present, and, before the Scotch ones had settled their "difficulties," the unfortunate Newmarket Club has set off their English brethren in chorus, and not without good reason.

NOTTINGHAM SPRING MEETING.—TUESDAY.

Trial Stakes.—Apathy, 1. Master Bagot, 2.
Nottingham Handicap.—St. Clair, 1. Tom Thumb, 2.
Grand Stand Handicap.—Admiral Lyons, 1. Queen of the South, 2.
Little John Stakes.—Greenwich Fair, 1. Orchill, 2.

WEDNESDAY.

Forest Plate Handicap.—Elfrida, 1. Walhalla, 2.
Juvenile Selling Stakes.—Woodmote, 1. Nora Creina, 2.
Great Annual Hurdle Race.—Sluggard, 1. The Screw, 2.
Innkeepers' Plate.—Cripple, 1. Attorney-General, 2.

DERBY RACES.—THURSDAY.

Harrington Plate.—Huntington, 1. Emulator, 2.
Scarsdale Stakes.—York, 1. Greenwich Fair, 2.
Midland Steeplechase.—Westminster, 1. Tchernaya, 2.
Hurdle Race.—Sluggard, 1. Treachery, 2.

TATTERSALL'S.—THURSDAY.

LIVERTHOL STEEPLCHASE.—8 to 1 agst Escapa, 9 to 1 agst Minot, 12 to 1 agst Omer Pacha, 12 to 1 agst Hopeless Star, 20 to 1 agst Freestander.
TWO THOUSAND GUINEAS.—7 to 1 agst Vedette.
DERBY.—1000 to 15 agst Purdon.

EXTRAORDINARY APPEARANCE AT SEA.—The passengers and crew of the *Pera* on her last outward voyage witnessed a singular phenomenon when approaching Alexandria on the 3rd inst. At noonday the sun became almost invisible, and a dense fog obscured the firmament; the ship with her spars and rigging were covered with a fine powder, which entered the ears and mouths of the passengers, causing the greatest inconvenience. The utmost alarm was felt on board, and some dire calamity was apprehended. The hatches were battened down, and Captain Soy, the commander of the packet, turned her head and ran off to sea again. During the time of this almost complete darkness the wind was blowing from the south, and the sea was frightfully disturbed. Although the *Pera* proceeded forty or fifty miles out to sea again, still the dense fog prevailed far to seaward, and towards the coast darkness literally over-spreading the land of Egypt. This phenomenon lasted for eight hours, when the fog cleared away, the wind lulled, and the sea went down. This extraordinary appearance was owing to what is called the khamsen or sand storm, and its extending so far to sea is a most unusual circumstance. From the direction of the wind the khamsen must have originated in the Great Sahara. It raises the sand there in masses which move in a spiral figure, and the heavy particles of sand soon drop to the earth, while the smaller ones, or the pulverised sand, are carried away to a distance. The people on board the *Pera* found afterwards the khamsen had blown down trees, turned over railway carriages, and forced cattle into the canal between Alexandria and Cairo.



THE GREAT WESTERN DOCKS, PLYMOUTH: THE FLOATING DOCK.

OPENING OF THE PLYMOUTH GREAT WESTERN DOCKS.

THE new Docks—which have long been in course of construction at Plymouth, and which were so much needed for the better accommodation of the larger class of vessels belonging to the mercantile marine—were opened for traffic on the 11th inst.; and, although the occasion was allowed to pass with little of the ceremonial observances with which the completion of works of such magnitude are sometimes honoured, there can be no doubt that the undertaking is one which is calculated to promote the commercial interests of the metropolis of the west in a greater degree than any other enterprise which has marked the history of Plymouth. The three towns of Plymouth, Stonehouse, and Devonport, which are immediately contiguous to each other, contain together a population estimated at 120,000. There is not a finer port in the United Kingdom. It possesses harbours which can be entered by the largest vessels ever constructed, irrespective of the state of wind and tide, and there are mag-

nificent docks available for Government vessels; but, until now, it has been matter of just reproach to the port that it possessed no floating dock for the use of merchant shipping. That reproach, however, has been removed by the construction of the Great Western Docks, the plans for which were prepared by Mr. I. K. Brunel, and carried out under the superintendence of Mr. Power, resident engineer, at a cost little short of a quarter of a million sterling.

The works include a floating dock, with an area of 13 acres; length of quay-wall, 3490 feet; entrance-gates, 80 feet wide. There is also a graving dock, 367 feet in length, having gates 80 feet wide, and width of chamber 92 feet. The area of the wharfs around the floating dock exceeds 15 acres. There is a pier 400 feet long, 40 to 90 feet wide, and with a depth of water of from 18 to 40 feet under low water spring tides. In addition, there is a pontoon 300 feet long, 40 feet wide, with a depth of water alongside of from 12 to 24 feet under low water spring tides, and capable of

containing 4000 tons of coals. To make the works as complete as possible, an hotel has been erected, and warehouses, bonding-stores, &c., provided.

The opening of the docks took place, as already stated, on the 11th inst., when the fine screw-steamer *Elba*, 1100 tons burden, Captain Hammill, was taken into the dock without the least difficulty. Considerable interest was manifested upon the occasion, the *Elba* being dressed in colours, and the docks visited during the day by hundreds of persons. On the following morning she was removed into the graving dock, where she is now undergoing repair. She was upon a voyage from London to the Mediterranean with a general cargo, when it became necessary to put into Plymouth to repair a defect near the sternpost. The *Elba* belongs to Mr. Newall, of Gateshead, the well-known manufacturer of wire rope, and she was built expressly for laying electric wire cables, in which duty she has been employed almost up to the present moment.



THE GREAT WESTERN DOCKS, PLYMOUTH: THE GRAVING DOCK.



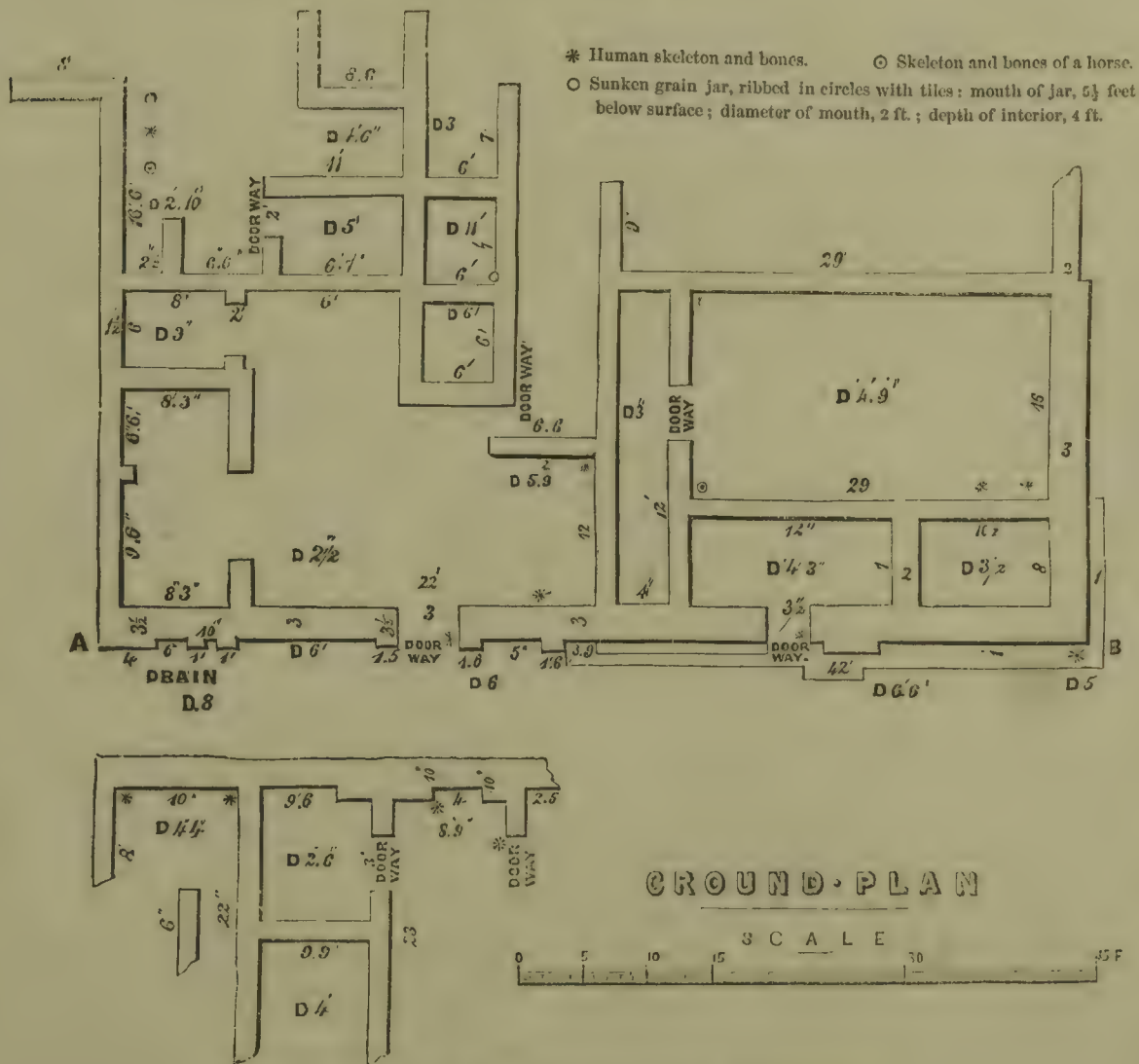
RUINS OF BRAHMUNABAD, IN SIND.

THE ANCIENT AND RUINED CITY OF BRAHMUNABAD, IN SIND.

IN our Journal of last week we illustrated some of the relics found by Mr. Bellasis in the ruined city of Brahmunabad (or Brahminabad). We now engrave a general view of the site of the city. The most prominent object is the remains of a high tower of brickwork standing isolated on a large heap of ruins. This may have been the citadel, or one of those circular towers such as are seen in Sind to this day in the forts of Hyderabad and Omercote.

The present appearance of the city is a vast mass of ruins, forming irregular mounds or hillocks, as shown in our drawing, with here and there open spaces or squares, evidently the bazaars and market-places. The masjid on the left is a modern edifice erected by a faqueer or devotee, who has selected one of the mounds, and thereon fixed his abode and raised his flagstaff amid this scene of solitude and desolation. He is an ascetic of a peculiar sect. He ministers both to Mussulmans and to Hindoos, and the followers of both religions reverence him, and give him alms and charity.

Brahmunabad, in the sixth and seventh centuries, is described as a fortified and populous city containing 14,000 bastions, a tenab distant from each other. It is supposed to have been destroyed by an earthquake, in the eighth century A.D. The fort walls which surround the city and many of the bastions are still distinctly visible. These walls are nearly four miles in circumference, and within this area are the ruins of a city once densely populated. On the eastern side is the dry bed of a river, said to have been one of the old courses of the Indus. The site of the city, protected by its fortified walls and its slightly-elevated position, is preserved from the influence of the inundation. The ruins are all



GROUND PLAN OF ONE OF THE HOUSES EXCAVATED AT BRAHMUNABAD.

above the general surface of the country, and have not been submerged. Viewed from the plain at some distance, the ruins present the appearance of a range of low undulating hills.

The second Engraving shows the ground plan, and the third the front elevation of one of the houses excavated by Mr. Bellasis, which he thus describes:—

We selected for excavation a heap of ruins standing on the verge of the principal bazaar or square. We had not commenced many minutes before we came upon the edge of a wall: clearing it, we soon came upon a cross wall, and then upon another, and another, until a house with a variety of rooms began fast to take shape, and disclose its proportions. We had not dug two feet before we came to quantities of bones, and at that, and greater depths, skeletons were so numerous that it was hardly possible to dig a powder (a large hoe) full of earth without bringing up particles of bones. As far as I could judge, many were undeniably human bones, and others those of cattle and horses. The human bones were chiefly found in doorways, as if the people had been attempting to escape, and others in the corners of the rooms. Many of the skeletons were in a sufficiently perfect state to show the position the body had assumed: some were upright, some recumbent, with their faces down, and some crouched in a sitting posture. One in particular, I remember, finding in a doorway: the man had evidently been rushing out of his house, when a mass of brickwork had, in its fall, crushed him to the ground, and there his bones were lying extended full length, and the face downwards. These bones, on exposure to the atmosphere, mostly crumbled to dust, and it was very difficult to obtain anything but fragments. But in excavating you often obtain a good section of the skeleton, and thereby can easily tell the position of the body. In one of the rooms I found a large grain jar, ribbed in circles; its mouth was arched over with brickwork. I at first took it for a well, but afterwards discovered it to be a sunken grain jar. The diameter of its mouth was two feet, and inside it was empty for four feet, the bottom portion being filled with mould, possibly the decomposed remains of the grain.



FRONT ELEVATION ON A. B.

FRONT ELEVATION OF HOUSE AT BRAHMUNABAD.

At Legation House, Devonshire, on the 20th inst., Elizabeth, wife of Sir John Yarde Buller, Bart., M.P., and only daughter of the late Thomas Wilson Patten, Esq.

NEW BOOKS, &c.

NEW MUSIC, &c.

RENEWAL OF THE BANK CHARTER.
ANNALS OF BRITISH LEGISLATION.
 Part 10, to be issued immediately, will contain Abstracts of Reports from, and evidence before, the Select Committees of the House of Lords and Commons appointed in 1847 to inquire into the causes of the distress among the Commercial Classes, and how far it has been affected by the laws regulating the issue of Bank Notes payable on demand.

The Houses of Lords and Commons having ordered that the above Reports be reprinted, it is believed the publication of this analysis of their contents will prove of particular interest to the Commercial World.

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We have engraved this picture in order the more easily to call attention to a promising little painting which, in the distraction of the general exhibition, might possibly be overlooked. It contains indications of that simplicity of feeling and quiet sympathy with the joys and sorrows of boyhood which is so characteristic of Mulready. It bears some resemblance, also, in its handling to the style of the great painter; that is to say, the effect is gained by an amount of stippling which leaves a certain illusive indistinctness, or "muzziness" if you will.

The story is too simple and obvious to need description. The artist has, however, so successfully rendered the expression of the boys' regret for the fate of their favourite that we can scarcely refrain from testifying our sympathy with their simple grief; especially as their disappointment must be so much increased to find that poor "bunny" will no more be able to nibble any of the fresh green fodder they have provided with such solicitude, and so plentifully. There is a touch of humour, though, in the way in which the bigger boy is holding up the rabbit. In order to ascertain if their pet be really quite dead, he holds it up by the ears in the most unceremonious and boylike manner possible. Indeed (as we have forgotten much of our boyish experience), we should suspect that boys in general have a theory that rabbits are provided with particularly long ears wholly and solely in order that they may be suspended by them. Boys are prone also to try the same suspensory experiment in natural history with the conveniently loose integument of the back of the dog's neck, and some of the more mischievous even with the temptingly long tail of poor pussy. And this reminds us that kindness to dumb animals—such as the pleasing specimen we have in our picture—is by no means an invariable trait in the character of boys; on the contrary, they have unhappily established a character for cruelty almost as much as for mischief. Some of this latent propensity will, no doubt, manifest itself even in these boys, and be vented on that culprit cur when they discover him sneaking under the hutch with such a very consciously criminal—and, if we may be excused the solecism—"hangdog" expression.

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the civilised world; and in many distant lands to have been nobly imitated. We have frequently recorded and illustrated these beneficial results; and by the aid of an obliging Correspondent we have now the gratification of adding to the number the Industrial and Agricultural Exhibition at Coimbatore, in the Madras Presidency, South India.

Our Correspondent, writing from Coimbatore, Dec. 22, says:—"The Madras Government, with its usual most laudable tendency to progress, has this year sanctioned the holding of these Exhibitions throughout most of the districts in the presidency. As it was a total novelty here, the wildest reports gained credence among the natives. While some imagined that the ulterior object was to facilitate forming an estimate for raising their taxes, a wilder notion prevailed that the destruction of caste was aimed at; and that, when the crowd was collected in the building, an insect would be let out of a box, and that whomsoever it alighted on would from that moment lose all his privileges of caste. In spite, however, of these rumours, the Exhibition proved a great success.

"On the 1st of December the building was formally opened, and the collector, Mr. E. B. Thomas, delivered an appropriate speech in the language of the district, explaining the objects of the Exhibition.

"The principal building was 300 feet long by 75 feet broad. It was a complete cocoanut palace. The pillars that supported the building were the stems of the tree, and the roof and walls were composed of its leaves. At one end of the building was a long dais, in which the Europeans and the better class of natives were collected. This was adorned in the most gorgeous Oriental style. In the centre a fountain threw up its refreshing jet. Down the long aisles were placed bamboo tables, on which were ranged the produce of industry. Round some of the pillars were collected the grain of India, bending with their heavy ears; round others clustered the sugarcane and the banana; others were ornamented with the spoils of the field—the horns of the bison, the antlers of the elk, and enormous skulls and tusks of the elephant, with innumerable skins of tigers, cheetahs, bears, &c.

"The Exhibition lasted four days. Three days the crowd had admission, and the fourth day was devoted to the native ladies, whose prejudices will not allow of their appearing in public. Sub-committees were appointed on all the various classes, and a large sum was disbursed in prizes. The impression created has been most favourable; and, no doubt, we may expect a much larger competition on a future occasion. The plan is well calculated to develop the resources of the country."



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FASHIONS FOR MARCH.

THE newest Parisian fashions manifest a decided approximation to the style of dress which prevailed during the reigns of Louis XV. and Louis XVI. The make and the trimmings of dresses, the style of arranging the hair, the designs for setting jewellery—all are accurately copied from pictures of the date above mentioned. In short, there is quite a rage for the style Louis XV. and the style Louis XVI.

Pearls were never worn in greater profusion than at the present time. Nets formed of strings of pearls, and just sufficiently large to inclose the torsade of hair at the back of the head, are favourite head-dresses. These nets are edged round by pearl fringe, and at each side and at the back are tassels of pearl. In front a cordon of pearls is passed between the bandeaux of hair. The same style of

head-dress has a very elegant effect when composed of blue beads (imitation of turquoise), or of blue beads and pearls mixed together.

Another favourite *coiffure* adapted for Court costume, or for very full evening dress, consists of loops of gold beads or of pearls at the back of the head, and two plumes of ostrich or marabout feathers fixed at each side, and waving gracefully over the nape of the neck. With this head-dress, as with the nets just described, strings of gold beads or pearls may be passed between the bands of front hair. Two or three rows of gold chain are sometimes worn as bandeaux on the head, and the effect is at once simple and becoming.

In regard to the make of the corsages of dresses suited to mourning and out-door costume, the newest style is that shown in our Illustration (Fig. 2). For the skirts of silk dresses flounces are indispensable. The bonnet shown in the Illustration just mentioned is also one of

the newest and most approved types of fashion. The cloaks most in favour are those made of dark-coloured velvet—brown, dark green, and violet are favourite hues. The form of these velvet cloaks is frequently circular, others have ends of moderate length in front; very broad silk fringe and passementerie of diversified designs are the trimmings usually employed for velvet cloaks.

Some of the newest evening dresses are remarkable alike for richness of material and for the splendid and tasteful style of their trimming and ornament. A robe of garnet-colour velvet has recently been made with a demi-train. On each side of the skirt there is a beautiful arabesque design formed of gold soutache, intermingled with pearls. The corsage is ornamented in a corresponding manner. The sleeves are slit along their whole length, and the opening is confined at intervals by gold ornaments. The under sleeves of tulle,



FUNCHAL, MADEIRA.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

in small puffs, descend to the wrists, where they are confined by richly-jewelled bracelets. The *coiffure* to be worn with this dress consists of a gold net, enriched with sequins, and on one side, just behind the ear, a large white rose.

We may here describe a very becoming Swiss costume recently worn at a fancy-dress ball. The skirt was of pink silk, with side trimmings of black velvet, and a large bow of black velvet fastened on each of the pockets. The corsage, of white muslin, was high to the throat, and entirely covered with rows of narrow black velvet ribbon, crossing each other so as to form a lozenge pattern. Across the shoulders *bretelles* of broad pink ribbon. The sleeves, of white muslin, descending to the elbows, were in the bell form, trimmed with pink ribbon and black velvet, and gathered up in front of the arm by large black velvet bows. The plaits of hair, which descended very low on the neck, were intermingled with bows of pink ribbon and black lace.

Tulle, crape, or farlatane, are the materials most generally employed for ball dresses. For trimming, a beautiful kind of flowered ribbon has been introduced, which is very effective for edging flounces, or for finishing the double or triple skirts, &c. These flowered ribbons also admit of tasteful arrangement on the corsages and sleeves.

Floral designs are those at present most in favour for setting jewellery. Nothing can exceed the beauty of some of the new designs of this kind recently introduced, and intended for *parures* to be worn in Court costume or full evening dress. An eminent jeweller has recently completed a circlet for the head, consisting of lilies formed of diamonds, pansies composed of sapphires, and fuchsias of rubies; the stems are formed of fine pearls.

Châtelaines are regaining fashionable favour; but those recently introduced are somewhat different in style from the same kind of ornament worn a few years ago. The most elegant consist of two long chains of gold, confined together by a slide set with jewels or beautifully enamelled. From one of these chains is suspended a watch, in the back of which is frequently set a valuable cameo. To the other chain may be affixed a jewelled cassolette, or any other trinket which taste may dictate.

THE ILLUSTRATIONS.

Fig. 1. Ball dress of white tulle, over a slip of white glacé. The skirt is formed of three double jupes of tulle, gathered up in festoons by chains of pearl. The corsage is draped, and in the centre there is a bouquet of white camellias. The sleeves, which are exceedingly short, are formed of a single puff and frill; and on each shoulder there is an *agraffe* of pearls. Head-dress pearls, and blue and white marabouts. Necklace, bracelets, and earrings of pearl.

Fig. 2. Dress of velvet, of a beautiful line of brown, at present very fashionable in Paris, where it is designated *la nuance Teba*, in honour of the Empress, who, it will be remembered, bore prior to her marriage the title of Countess de Teba. The skirt of the dress is perfectly plain, without trimming of any kind; but it is made exceedingly full, and is sufficiently long behind to form a short train. The corsage is high, and has a round turn-over collar. The basque presents a novelty; being set on in large box plaits round the waist—a style which, be it observed, is suitable only to a very slender figure. The sleeves have a flat piece on the shoulder, and below it a puff and a broad frill. The under sleeves consist of large *bouillons* of plain muslin, with worked cuffs turned back, and the wrists are encircled by coral bracelets. A small round collar of worked muslin turns over the velvet collar of the dress. The bonnet, of emerald-green velvet, is shaped so as to form a small point in front of the forehead. In the inside of the brim a fall of black lace slightly veils the cap. The outside of the bonnet has also a trimming of black lace, which is carried round the curtain at the back. At each side there are three small black and green ostrich feathers. Strings of green velvet ribbon. Under trimming, bouquets of geranium.

Fig. 3. Bridal Costume. Double skirt of white satin, richly trimmed with Brussels lace. The lace is disposed in a novel and highly effective style. It is set on in pyramidal groups, each formed of horizontal rows of lace gathers, in slight fulness. On the front of the lower skirt are two bows and ends of broad white satin ribbon, and a ceinture of the same ribbon is fastened in a bow, and long, flowing ends in front of the waist. The corsage, which is high to the throat, is trimmed with horizontal rows of lace and white silk fancy buttons. Spanish sleeves, loose at the ends, and entirely covered with rows of lace, one above another, with bows of white satin ribbon on the shoulders. Round the throat a small white lace collar. The veil is of white tulle, edged with a broad hem, within which is a running of white ribbon. The bridal wreath is composed of orange blossom and jasmine.

Fig. 4. The dress of this sitting figure, which is only partially shown, in our Engraving, is of pink tulle, with three broad flounces edged with fancy ribbon of a flowered pattern. The head-dress consists of a wreath, or rather a narrow cordon, of pink flowers, which passes across the upper part of the head; and on each side there is a tuft of pink and white marabouts, fixed by pearl-headed Italian pins.

MADEIRA.

THIS beautiful island, so celebrated for the health-giving and restorative character of its climate, has recently been visited by an epidemic and scarcity of food, under the most afflicting circumstances. The visitation has, however, called forth the indefatigable exertions of many humane individuals, "whose benevolence has not only largely contributed to avert famine, but there is every prospect of its being the instrument of lasting benefit to the recipients and the Island of Madeira." Foremost in this "generous band" was the Rev. A. J. D. Orsey, whose friends, anxious to testify to him and to the inhabitants of the island their interest in its prosperity, and their deep sense of Mr. D'Orsey's generous devotion to the cause of the sufferers from the late epidemic, have resolved to request his acceptance of a small fund, to which they have determined severally to contribute. They desire to offer it to Mr. D'Orsey as a sincere though inadequate expression of esteem, and of their high appreciation not only of his recent benevolent exertions in this country, but of his present laborious and continued efforts to render the succour bestowed instrumental to the permanent benefit of the recipients.

Mr. T. Vernon Wollaston has kindly consented to act as treasurer, and subscriptions may be paid either directly to him, at 10, Hereford-street, Park-lane, or to his account, "for the Rev. A. J. D. Orsey," at Messrs. Martin and Co.'s, 68, Lombard-street, London.

The subscriptions already received are:—No. 1, £30; No. 2, £25; No. 3, £5; No. 4, £5; No. 5, £5; No. 6, £5.

The details of the means by which so much good has been effected by Mr. D'Orsey, and his coadjutors in the good work, are worthy of record. Taking charge of the parish in which he lived, and having obtained a list of the dead, of the widows and orphans, and of the families who had suffered from the late epidemic, Mr. D'Orsey caused it to be announced to the people that he would receive applications every day at four o'clock. Accordingly, he sat with a coadjutor at his gate, and on a sheet entered the names, description, number of dead, residence, &c. This took ten days. Meanwhile, the cottages were visited, and many of them were found to be in a wretched condition. It was then announced that no one should receive alms until the whole house had been completely cleansed with whitewash and quicklime, all nuisances removed, and all sanitary laws complied with. This visitation was a work of time, for there are 356 cottages in the parish, and only thirty could be efficiently visited in one day. Next came the distribution of beds, blankets, shirts, rice, tea, sugar, wine, &c. The rice was issued weekly, one pound for each member of a family; the parish alone required 10 cwt. per week, or 3½ cwt. represented fully 1000 persons. Many families were found living on less than one penny per day for each person; most of them having but one meal, and that a small portion of Italian corn, with chopped cabbage. To the infirm were given soups made from the preserved meats sent to the island; and to those reduced by suffering was given a small quantity of port wine. Some of the poor creatures were still weak, pale, and tottering from the effect of cholera; but the majority, though very poor, rapidly gained strength—thanks to the wonderful climate, to an abundant crop of the sweet potato, to a fine harvest, and to the truly seasonable relief from England. We need scarcely add that the humane and benevolent efforts of those who have signalled themselves in this great work of charity are entitled to special distinction by some testimony which should mark such generous conduct for imitation.

The sanitary importance of Madeira, as a change from the trying cold of England to a milder atmosphere, has led to the publication of several works more or less descriptive of the island. The most valuable

and complete book upon the subject is, we believe, a volume entitled "Madeira: its Climate and Scenery—a Handbook for Invalid and other Visitors." By Robert White. Published by Adam and Charles Black, Edinburgh. Of this work a new edition has just appeared, in great part rewritten and enlarged by Mr. Yate Johnson, who has resided several years in the island. Thus, the chapters on Natural History, on Physical Geography, Agriculture, and Gardening, the Government, General Statistics, and the Excursions into different parts of the Island are entirely new; and large additions have been made to the chapter on Meteorology. As a specimen of the work we may quote the following spirited description of the View engraved upon the preceding page—the Bay of Funchal:—

Let us cast our eyes over the scene visible from the bosom of the bay. Lying at the very base of the hills, and having a southern aspect, the city stretches itself along the margin of the bay, resting each extremity on a shoulder supported by a cliff. Here and there is a spire or a tower, but on the whole the public buildings are few and inconspicuous. The atmosphere around them, however, is clear and smokeless, and the houses, rising as they recede from the shore, are brilliantly white. Many of them run up to a great height above their bases, to afford the merchants a look-out over the bay. The governor's residence is a large but plain structure, seen across one of the public walks. Of the forts, the largest occupies a commanding position on a height behind the city, overlooking the convent of Santa Clara; another is perched on a black insulated rock that stands bristling with cannon and flagstaves a gunshot from the land; and a third crowns the Pontinha, a rocky point that stretches from the land near the Loo rock. In this neighbourhood a grove of cypresses near the edge of the cliff indicates one of the cemeteries of the Portuguese. A tall column on the beach, the substantial Custom-house, another public walk planted with trees, and the fort of Sant'ago, stand out from the front line of houses; whilst further to the east the new Lazaretto is seen at the mouth of a gorge. Numerous neat houses in terraced gardens, or upon points of rock, dot the surrounding slopes; and at the upper limit of the inhabited district, 1500 feet above the sea, the eye is caught by an edifice with a domed tower at each side. This is the church of Our Lady of the Mountain, where an image is lodged which is the object of many a devout pilgrimage on the part of the pious below, for it has the credit, especially amongst mariners, of having wrought divers miraculous deeds. The mountains above rise, bare and rocky, to the height of between 3000 and 4000 feet; a belt of chestnut-trees and a few plantations of pine alone breaking the barrenness of the acclivities; and these, by the illusion of distance, appear only like patches of brushwood. Numerous ridges indicate the course of ancient lava streams, whilst deep ravines cut their way into the heart of the hills and expose their precipitous sides to the day. Bringing our eyes down again to the shore we perceive how shallow is the indentation to which the name of bay is given. Between Brazen Head and Cruz Point, its two extremities, about five miles and a half apart, the line of coast forms an easy curve inwards to the depth of about three-quarters of a mile. The cliffs, especially those on the east, are high and of a sombre colour. They look sternly down upon the ocean, and seem to throw glances of defiance on the waves as they rush to their feet and strive to undermine them.

Funchal, the chief town of Madeira, is situate in lat. 32 deg. 37 min. 45 sec. north, and long. 16 deg. 55 min. 20 sec. west from Greenwich. Consequently noon at Funchal occurs 1h. 7m. 41s. after noon at Greenwich. It is distant by ship's course about 1332 geographical miles from Southampton, 1164 miles from the Lizard Point, 535 miles from Lisbon, 625 miles from Gibraltar, 308 miles from the coast of Africa, and 260 miles from Santa Cruz, in Teneriffe. The mean rise and fall of the tide at Madeira is seven feet; the variation of the compass in 1843 was 21 deg. west.

THE PLANET JUPITER.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

DURING the present opposition Jupiter has approached nearer to the Earth than since 1844, and has been otherwise favourably situated for telescopic observation in these latitudes. The irregularities in the form and darkness of the belts have been very remarkable at times, as will be seen from three sketches of the planet which I inclose, and which were taken under favourable circumstances with the Northumberland twenty-foot telescope. The first figure represents Jupiter on

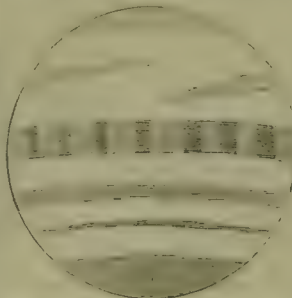


FIG. 1.—SEPT. 16, AT 9.45 P.M.

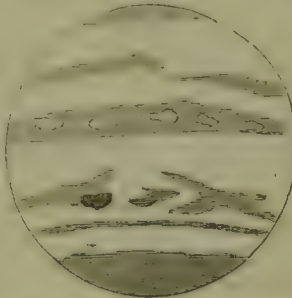


FIG. 2.—SEPT. 30, AT 11.50 P.M.]

September 16, at 9h. 45 m. p.m. the principal belt had a waved appearance; but the one immediately below it was of nearly uniform breadth and shade. On September 30, shortly before midnight—at which time the planet should have turned nearly the same face towards the Earth as on the former occasion—the appearance was as represented in Fig. 2, the belt north (or apparently below the Equator) being broken up into irregular fragments of different degrees of shade, and one very dark spot being particularly apparent. The great belt was nearly as broad though not so uniform as before, and there were a number of semiluminous spots visible along its surface. A narrow belt and two broken belts preserved nearly the same dimensions and position as on the former occasion. On Oct. 1, at 9h. 42 m.

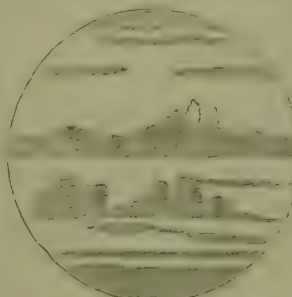


FIG. 3.—OCT. 1, AT 9.42 P.M.

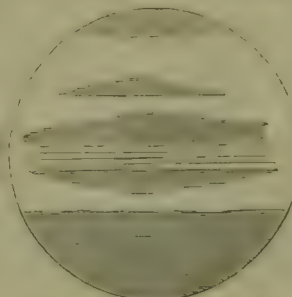


FIG. 4.—APPEARANCE IN 1855

p.m., when a different part of the surface of the planet was turned towards the earth, the appearance was still more irregular (Fig. 3): the lower edge of the principal belt was nearly straight, the upper much curved and indented. The belt below appeared like a confused mass of cumuli clouds, and a number of narrow bands arranged parallel to the Equator were scattered over the disc. Two very bright spots were visible just above the irregular edge of the principal belt.

During the opposition of 1855 the appearance was equally singular, although generally more constant (Fig. 4). The whole of the northern portion of the planet was as dark as the belts are commonly seen, whilst the opposite hemisphere was quite bright. Three faint belts were visible.

The above figures represent the planet as viewed in an inverting telescope. A power of 350 was generally used. J. BREEN.

PRESERVED MEAT AND VEGETABLES FROM RUSSIA.—The Russian Government has just granted extensive privileges to a company established by M. Chollet and others, for preserving and exporting, on a great scale, large quantities of meat and vegetables produced in the plains of the Dnieper. In that vast grazing country the flesh of oxen and sheep has, in certain seasons, been absolutely thrown away, on account of the difficulty of bringing it to any market, and the absence of any means for its preservation. A number of capitalists in St. Petersburg and Paris have lately taken up the plan devised by M. Chollet, to make a profitable use of the enormous amount of alimentary substances which Southern Russia would supply, and which might go far to relieve the distress and anxiety now felt in France about the increasing scarcity of food. A company, having a capital of twelve millions of francs, has been formed for this purpose, and has already contracted to supply the Russian Government, as its first customer, with ten million rations of compressed vegetables every year for the next ten years. At a late meeting of the Paris shareholders M. Chollet exhibited some excellent à-la-mode beef preserved by the process which it is intended to apply, and stated that a sufficient quantity for an ample dinner for one man could be sold for 15 centimes (three halfpence).—*Galignani's Messenger*.

Memorabilia,

LITERARY, ANTIQUARIAN, SCIENTIFIC, AND ARTISTIC.

"A little chink may let in much light."—OLD PROVERB.

VISIT OF THE DUKE OF WURTEMBERG-MUMPELGARD TO JAMES I., IN 1610.

AMONG the Additional Manuscripts in the British Museum is a small thin quarto, containing the autograph diary, written in French, of Hans Jacob Wurmser von Vendenheim, who accompanied Louis Frederic, Duke of Wurtemberg-Mumpelgard, in his diplomatic mission to England in 1610, on the part of the united Protestant German Princes. This diary extends from 16th March to 24th July of that year, and affords brief but interesting notices of the places visited by the Duke, both in coming and returning. He embarked from Flushing (where an English garrison was stationed) on Tuesday, 12th April, and arrived at Gravesend on the following day, where he was waited on by Sir Lewis Lewkenor, Master of the Ceremonies, and the next day conveyed in the Royal barges to London, "au logis de l'Aigle noir." On the 16th the Duke had his audience of the King, who received him sitting under a "des" of cloth of gold, accompanied by the Queen, the Prince (Henry), the Duke of York (afterwards Charles I.), the Princess (Madame Arabella Stuart), and the young Prince of Brunswick, at that time also on a visit to James. Several days were afterwards spent in receiving and paying visits, and on the 23rd the Feast of St. George was kept with the usual ceremonies. On the 30th we have an entry of some interest to Shakespearean readers—"S. E. alla au Globe, lieu ordinaire ou l'on joue les Comedies; y fut representé l'histoire du More de Venise."

We know from the evidence produced by Mr. Collier that "Othello" appeared as early as 1602; and this entry proves that it retained its popularity in 1610. On the following day, 1st May, is another entry of scientific interest:—

S. E. alla au parc d'Elthon (Eltham) pour veoir la *perpetuum mobile*. L'inventeur s'appelle Cornelius Trebel, natif d'Alkmar, homme fort blond et beau, et d'une très douce façon, tout au contraire des esprits de la sorte. Nous y vîmes aussy des Espinettes, qui jouent d'elle mesmes.

I have not met with any mention of this philosopher in other papers of the period; but it is certain that in 1621 he published a work in Latin, entitled "De quintessentia, et Epistola ad Jacobum Regem de perpetui mobili inventione." No copy of this work seems to be preserved in the libraries of the British Museum or the Bodleian, but possibly some of the readers of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS may know of one.

The King had previously left London (on the 24th) to go to his hunting-box in Northamptonshire; and on the 4th May the Duke followed him and slept at Ware, at the inn called the Stag, where, says the author of the Diary, "Je fus couché dans ung lit de plume de cigne, qui avoit huit pieds de largeur." This is, perhaps, the earliest precise notice yet found of this famous bed, and it serves to illustrate the passage in Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night," act iii. s. 2, in which he alludes to the "Bed of Ware." This bed still exists, and is engraved in Shaw's "Ancient Furniture," where it is stated to be 10 ft. 9 in. in length, by 10 ft. 9 in. in width, and to have been made in the reign of Elizabeth.

On leaving Ware the Duke proceeded to Royston, Cambridge, Newmarket, and Thetford, where he rejoined the King on the 7th; and the next morning the Duke went to church with his Majesty, as it was the day "quo sa Majesté observe infalliblement pour estre cely de sa delivrance de l'assassinat des Contes de Gaury (Gowry)." This is a remarkable passage, since other authorities give the 5th of August as the anniversary of this conspiracy. On the same day James took his guests with him to hunt the hare (his favourite amusement), and they saw a hawk seize some doctores, "oiseau qui se laisse prendre par une estrange manière;" and also the trained cormorants, which, at the word of command, plunged into the water and brought up eels and other fish, which they, on a sign given, vomited up alive—"choses bien merveilleuse a voir!" On the same day, also, arrived the news of the assassination of Henry IV. of France, which took place on the 4th May. The news, however, did not prevent the King from hunting the hare the next day; and after dinner the whole party returned towards London, which they reached on the 10th. On the 25th the Duke of Wurtemberg left London and travelled by Rochester and Canterbury to Dover; whence, on the 29th, he embarked with his suite, and arrived safely at the port of Veer, in Zealand, on the following day.—F. MADDEN.

NOTES.

SHAKESPEARE AND ARISTOTLE.—Shakespeare, in "Troilus and Cressida," represents Priam quoting from Aristotle the remark that young men are not good learners of moral philosophy. Omitting the anachronism, I wish to know whether any of your readers could suggest in what way Shakespeare can be supposed to have become acquainted with the fact that Aristotle does say so? Whatever be thought of Shakespeare's classical attainments, I suppose no one ever imagined that he had read the Ethics of the philosopher in which the sentiment occurs—*ἡθικῶν οὐκ ἔστιν οἰκίαις ἀκατοῦτος* δ' *ἄνθρωπος*—B. I., c. iii. § 5. This is one of the most difficult treatises in the Greek language. Even at the present day there is hardly a single good translation of it to be found; and in the poet's time I much doubt whether there was any English translation, good or bad. Among those who profess a moderate acquaintance with literature in this age, I should like to know how many would ever have known it save through the medium of Shakespeare himself.—LEX.

[The sentiment—put into the mouth of Hector, not of Priam—that young men are not good learners of moral philosophy—once enunciated, would be readily adopted as an important truth, and Bacon ("Advancement of Learning," Works vol. I., p. 103; vol. IV., p. 196) has introduced it, assigning reasons differing from those given by Aristotle, who applies the notion to politics and not to ethics (Nichom. Eth. I., p. i.) Shakespeare may have taken the sentiment, the reasons, and the error direct from Bacon. The error is remarkable, considering that it passed the eyes of several scholars, including Hobbes, who assisted Bacon to a Latin version of his "Advancement." If there be no error, then their text of Aristotle must have read *ἡθικῶν*, instead of *πολιτικῶν*, which, however, is not probable, since Aristotle repeats the same thought in his Politics (III., i. vii. 9.)]

QUERIES.

AN ENGLISHMAN WITH A WOMAN'S CHRISTIAN NAME.—The Hon. Mr. A. Poulett, son of the first Earl Poulett, was the godson of Queen Anne, and bore her Christian name. Is there any similar instance of an Englishman being called by a woman's name?

MACKENZIE WALCOTT, M.A.

THE WORD CREE.—Can any of your readers inform me of the origin of the word "Cree"? It is used as a verb in Yorkshire, to designate the softening of rice, wheat, or other similar articles by water in the oven. I have looked in several dictionaries and do not find the word, and I have asked the residents of several other counties and they did not know its origin, or indeed its meaning, never having heard it used before. I should also be glad to be informed if the word is used in any other county, and where?—F. H. F., Doncaster.

ANSWERS.

WHY, AND AT WHAT PERIOD WAS A MAN'S TRADE FIRST TERMED HIS "CALLING"?—An answer to the above query is given by Mr. Stanley, in a note on 1st Corinthians, vii. 20—"Let every man abide in the same calling wherein he was called." Mr. Stanley says, "From the Latin translation *vocatio*, of the Greek *κλήσις*, has flowed the peculiar sense which the words 'vocation,' 'calling,' &c., have acquired in most European languages, as applied to professions and conditions of life." (Stanley's "St. Paul's Ep. to Corinthians," vol. i., p. 130.)—C. B. H.

"THE LOUNGER'S COMMON-PLACE BOOK."—The editor of this work was Jeremiah Whitaker Newman. Some particulars of his life will be found in *The Gentleman's Magazine* for June, 1846, supplied by Dr. Wreford, of Bristol.—J. K. R. W.

TEMPORA MUTANTUR, &c.—In reply to J. D., S. M. T., Halifax, and other correspondents, we beg to say that the words are—*Omnia mutantur, nos et mutamur in illis* Illa vices quasdam res habet, illa sua; and that they will be found in the "Dellitio Poetarum Germanorum," vol. i., p. 685.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

GUANO.—The Earl of CLARENDON, in reply to the motion of Lord Polwarth for papers on the subject, explained the circumstances of the guano supply from the islands of Haski, Jibleen, and Ghuzzond, lately ceded by the Imam of Muscat to England, and also the circumstances attending a license granted on the 20th February, 1856, by the Commissioners of Emigration to John Ord and others, giving them the sole and exclusive right to raise and take away guano from these islands during five years. When the islands were first brought under the notice of the Government by Mr. Ord, they sent out that gentleman, and Captain Fremantle, with instructions to discover to whom the islands belonged, to endeavour to procure the settlement of them, and to ascertain whether the accounts received were correct. It was found that there were but few inhabitants upon the islands, and they told them that they were subjects of the Imam of Muscat. Upon application to the Imam, it was ascertained that he had no objection to ceding the islands to Great Britain. Captain Fremantle, however, discovered that on the islands the supply of guano was small in quantity and inferior in quality; but that one of them would be very important as a coaling station. The Government accordingly offered this island as a coaling station to the East India Company. With regard to the license given to Mr. Ord, that gentleman was prepared to guarantee that the supplies of guano, immediately upon their arrival in this country, should be put up to sale at auction. The cargo would be consigned to one of the most respectable merchants in Liverpool, who was prepared to enter into bond that the sale should be conducted properly. No monopoly whatever was contemplated. So far from it, an arrangement had just been entered into that any ships might take guano from the islands on payment of £2 per ton.—The Duke of MONTROSE thought that amount too high a royalty.—Lord BERNERS considered it excessive. It was probable, as he heard, that there were from one to two millions of tons on the islands.—The Earl of HARDWICKE said that as the natives had driven the parties off, and they were now asking Government for aid, possibly Government might be able to improve the bargain.

TESTAMENTARY JURISDICTION BILL.—The LORD CHANCELLOR moved the second reading of the Testamentary Jurisdiction Bill. It would have the effect of abolishing the petty jurisdictions in the country, the doubts of where to take out probates, and the evils of contentious jurisdictions. It would also abolish the lower courts and improve the higher by constituting a Queen's Court of Probate. The present staff of registrars and other officers would remain. There would be district courts for registration in Liverpool and other places, but these would have no jurisdiction in contentious cases. All trials would take place in London where the personal estate was above £200 in value. The measure offered the further advantage of fixing a safe place for the deposit of wills of living persons, where they could neither be destroyed nor mislaid. After a short discussion the bill was read a second time.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

NEW MEMBER.—Mr. P. W. Martin took the oaths and his seat for West Kent, in place of Sir E. Filmer, deceased.

NEW WRIT FOR GLASGOW.—On the motion of Mr. HAYTER a new writ was issued for the city of Glasgow, in place of Mr. J. McGregor, who had accepted the Stewardship of the Chiltern Hundreds.

NEUCHÂTEL.—Lord PALMERSTON (in reply to Mr. Kinnaird) said no specific time had yet been fixed for the meeting of the Conference on the Neuchâtel affair, but all the Powers invited to meet by the French Government had agreed to send representatives. With respect to the prospect of a satisfactory settlement, all he could say was, that as the Swiss authorities had shown such a conciliatory spirit as to release their prisoners without trial, there could, he thought, be no doubt that the King of Prussia would show an equal amount of conciliation when the Conference met.

THE BUDGET.—ADJOURNED DEBATE.

MR. JAS. MACGREGOR (who resumed the debate) said he approached the question free from party spirit. From the exposition of the affairs of the country it was plain that this Budget contemplated the continuance of the Income-tax after 1860. But the country was determined on the contrary. For his own part he thought the military expenditure might be cut down to a much greater extent than was proposed. There was no necessity for maintaining the Aldershot, Colchester, or Curragh Camps. What he would say to the Government was, take back your Budget and reduce the expenditure.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL defended the Government scheme. As a warm supporter of Mr. Gladstone's Budget of 1853, he felt it necessary to vindicate his own consistency against the charges which Mr. Gladstone had brought against the present one. He thought the Chancellor of the Exchequer had no ordinary difficulties to contend with. In the first place, there was the tendency to extravagance which the naval and military departments manifested. Then there was his desire to comply with the wish of the country that the "war ninepence" should be abolished—that the whole tax should be remitted in 1860—and that no unnecessary impost should be laid upon the articles of general consumption. He was prepared to hear it charged against the Chancellor that he had either remitted too much or too little of taxation, but what he had not prepared for was that both these opposite charges should have come from the same person and in the same speech. He denied that the Chancellor had in any way deserted the principles of Free-trade, though he could certainly have spared a large portion of his speech; in particular, he did not agree with his defence of the fire-insurance duties and the tax on paper. He was also most desirous, on grounds both of good faith and of public policy, that the Income-tax should come to an end in 1860. But he was unable to see that the Chancellor of the Exchequer had done anything to frustrate that object; nay, he thought the present Budget was specially intended to carry that purpose into effect. Let it be remembered that we had to pay for principal and interest of the debt incurred during the war no less a sum than thirteen millions in the next three years. How could the Chancellor do otherwise than retain some of these extraordinary taxes to meet this extraordinary charge? He did not object to the principle of retaining a portion of the duties on tea and sugar, but he thought the scale proposed was too high, and that it ought to be reduced. He excited the risibility of the House by comparing Mr. Gladstone's speech to the screams of an anxious mother, who had dreamt that her favourite child was falling over a precipice. His alarm about the fate of his Budget of 1853 could only be compared to the anxiety of such a mother; but he hoped the division would deliver him from his delusion. But while he said this he could not help thinking there might still be some reduction in the estimates; and he advised the House to look vigilantly into them when they got into Committee of Supply. He hoped he might say that this was a period of peace. He trusted they would have peace with Persia, and that the foolish hostilities in China would cease. And, as they were now also in close alliance with France, he hoped the House would insist on really peace estimates. The Chancellor of the Exchequer had acted honestly and wisely in refusing to make an estimate for future years; but he thought, before going into these estimates, the Minister was bound to tell them what were the prospects of the country, and whether they were likely to get rid of the troubles with Persia and China. He rejoiced to hear that British trade and shipping were in such a prosperous state, and he hoped that neither the House nor the Government would put themselves to that policy which had already produced such glorious fruits.

Mr. BENTINCK was unable to agree either to the resolution or the amendment. He could not agree to vote away the money of the country before he knew how it was to be expended, and he therefore would move that this debate should be now adjourned, with a view, if the House would agree with him, of moving, further, that it be adjourned till the naval and military estimates were disposed of.

Mr. M. MILNES supported the Government, and only doubted whether the estimates had not been framed on too low a scale.

Sir J. TYRELL supported the amendment of Mr. Bentinck.

Mr. WILKINSON supported the Government.

Mr. LIDDELL was not satisfied with the amendment before the House, for he was, above all things, anxious that the defences of the country should be kept up. Still he thought that reductions in the estimates were possible, and he would vote for the amendment; but with the clear understanding that he did not wish to displace the Government.

Mr. J. G. PHILLIMORE attacked Mr. Gladstone, who, he said, had raised up a host of objections, many of them contradictory, without offering a single remedy. He taunted him with having been the principal opponent of the reduction of the Sugar-duties in 1841; and he informed him that, if he looked to the Ministerial side of the House, he would find men who regarded him as an uncanon enemy, while those on the opposite side looked on him as a treacherous friend, and the public at large considered him an unsafe guide.

Mr. WHITESIDE opposed the Budget because it broke faith with the tea-dealers, and because it tended to perpetuate the Income-tax in Ireland.

Sir F. BARING cordially supported the Budget, and characterised the opposition as a movement for office. Coming to the amendment, he complained of the uncanon omission in it with regard to the war Income-tax. He did not believe Mr. Disraeli intended to continue that tax; but he really thought Mr. Gladstone intended to keep it up for another year; and he suspected the omission of this matter in the amendment was to be ascribed to a difference of opinion between the two right honourable gentlemen as to what ought to be done with it. He was ready, nay, anxious, to vote for immediate retrenchment if they would only show him how. But to do that they must go into Committee and consider the estimates in detail, and to that course he invited the House.

Mr. WALPOLE could not consent to vote away the sums of money the Chancellor of the Exchequer asked for till the House had examined the items of expenditure in detail. He was in favour of keeping up an efficient but not an extravagant force; for he was satisfied that the best way to carry on war with vigour was to husband our expenditure in time of peace.

Mr. CARDWELL condemned the amendment as incapable of leading to a plain, intelligible, practical result. The real question was, did they mean

retrenchment of expenditure or did they not? If they did, let them go into Committee; if not, they would vote for this motion. The first step in Committee would be the remission of the war 9d.; and, having pledged the House to economy by that step, it would be impossible for them afterwards to adopt a policy inconsistent with that beginning.

Mr. M. GIBSON defended the amendment as the only course the House could adopt in order to express its opinion of the Budget as a whole. He held that to vote for going into Committee was in effect to vote the whole Budget; to vote for the amendment was to vote for reduction, and for less taxation. Reductions could not be carried into effect in Committee. The reductionists would, in that case, be left in a hopeless minority. He thought it would be of the greatest service to the country if they could arrest the Budget; and he believed, in that case, Ministers would neither resign nor dissolve Parliament, but would amend the Budget, and bring it again, in an amended form, before the House.

Mr. NEWDEGATE supported Mr. Bentinck's amendment for adjourning the debate.

Sir CHARLES WOOD denied that the Government had cut down the estimates after hearing the opinion of the House. The estimates were framed the week before the meeting of Parliament, and they had not since been interfered with. In regard to the amendment of Mr. Bentinck, he quite agreed that it pointed to the usual course of the House; but the Government had now brought forward their Budget in obedience to the wishes of the House, and he hoped the House would now support them in it. He denied that the Government had ever meant to continue the war ninepence a single day after the 5th of April. He defended the Chancellor of the Exchequer from the attacks made upon him by Mr. Gladstone—pointed out what he called misrepresentations of the Chancellor's speech by Mr. Gladstone, and repeatedly declared that the way in which Mr. Gladstone had spoken of the Chancellor of the Exchequer was hardly decent from one gentleman to another. He complained that, amidst all the opposition that had been called forth, there had been no practical suggestion in the whole course of the discussion, unless Mr. Walpole's suggestion was to be considered such, who objected to any increase of taxation whatever, and was yet horrified at the prospect of a deficiency. He did not believe that the estimates could be farther reduced this year, though he did not despair of carrying retrenchment farther in future years. On these grounds he called upon the House to reject the amendment.

Mr. GLADSTONE denied that he had intended to impute personal deceit to the Chancellor of the Exchequer. He thought his right honourable friend had conveyed to the country an erroneous idea of the taxes he had reduced, but he had no doubt it was entirely accidental.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER explained, and defended his statement on the Budget.

The House then divided on Mr. Bentinck's motion for adjournment, which was rejected by the large majority of 477 to 25.

The House again divided on the main question, when Mr. Disraeli's amendment was rejected by a majority of 286 to 206.

The House went into committee *pro forma*.

The other orders of the day were then disposed of.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

THE CHINESE WAR.

The Earl of DERBY rose to submit to their Lordships the following resolutions:—

"1. That this House has learnt with deep regret the interruption of amicable relations between her Majesty's subjects and the Chinese authorities at Canton, arising out of the measures adopted by her Majesty's chief superintendent of trade to obtain reparation for an alleged infraction of the supplementary treaty of 5th October, 1843.

"2. That, in the opinion of this House, the occurrence of differences upon this subject rendered the time peculiarly unfavourable for pressing upon the Chinese authorities a claim for the admittance of British subjects into Canton, which had been left in abeyance since 1849, and for supporting the same by force of arms.

"3. That, in the opinion of this House, operations of actual hostility ought not to have been undertaken without the express instructions, previously received, of her Majesty's Government; and that neither of the subjects adverted to in the foregoing resolutions afforded sufficient justification for such operations.

The noble Earl, after having presented a petition, very numerous signed, from the city of Manchester, stating the pain and indignation with which the petitioners had heard of the recent operations of the British authorities against the city of Canton, and praying for the recall of the three officers principally engaged in those operations, said the ground upon which the British authorities had acted—namely, the seizure of pirates on board of the *lorcha Arrow*—were not legally valid, while their subsequent conduct, leading as it did to the direct extremities of violence and bloodshed, was politically a blunder, and morally a crime. This view of the case the noble Earl supported by a minute analysis of the successive events, derived from the published despatches, which he cited at much length. He then adverted to the diplomatic question arising out of the alleged non-fulfilment of the Treaty of 1842, by which free entrance was granted to foreigners into Canton, arguing that the claim had been left dormant for many years, and seemed to be now enforced in pursuance of certain individual prepossessions entertained by Sir J. Bowring, the present British Commissioner at Hong-Kong, but at a most inopportune moment, upon no adequate justification, and with the most disastrous consequences.

The Earl of CLARENDON vindicated the conduct of Sir John Bowring, Consul Parkes, and Admiral Seymour, whose proceedings he considered to have been perfectly justifiable. Respecting the resolutions proposed by Lord Derby, the Foreign Secretary urged that they conveyed an unjust censure upon public servants abroad, and would result most disadvantageously to the public service, by leading to the conclusion that no representative of this country in any part of the world could, under any circumstances of provocation or injury, interpose effectually for the protection of British subjects and interests. He urged the House to abstain from lending their sanction to so dangerous a doctrine.

Lord LYNDHURST believed that the late transactions at Canton could not be justified upon any principles of law or political expediency. He proceeded to state facts and deduce inferences whereon that belief had been founded.

The LORD CHANCELLOR defended the Government, contending that the Chinese were bound not to board a British ship to seize criminals without the consent of the British Consul; and, in violation of that treaty, they had boarded the *lorcha Arrow* while the British flag was flying at the masthead, and seized the crew on a criminal charge.

Earl GREY said the *Arrow* was not a British vessel, and we had no right to interfere with it; but it was plain that Sir John Bowring was only waiting his opportunity to "make the Chinese yield to force, that being the only language they could understand." If that were the policy of the Government it was a course of proceeding that would rouse the Chinese against the people of this country, and it was a course of policy in which he could not support the Government.

The Duke of ARGYLL defended the conduct of the Government and Sir J. Bowring, and considered the Chinese authorities solely to blame as the cause of the war.

The Earl of CARNARVON moved that the debate be adjourned.

Earl GRANVILLE hoped the noble Earl would not press his motion. When great subjects were to be debated that House had never hesitated to give up a large portion of its time; but when a debate on an important subject was adjourned from time to time, the spirit of it evaporated, and the public did not read the discussion with that zest and attention which they did when a debate terminated on the same evening.

The Earl of DERBY thought it was very desirable to have a numerous attendance on great occasions; and he had seen with pain a small attendance on some important questions. There were many noble Lords who were desirous of taking part in the debate, and who could throw great light on the question; and he very much doubted whether the time was sufficient for doing justice to the question in one night's debate. He hoped the motion for adjournment would not be objected to.

Earl GRANVILLE was understood to assent to the motion for adjournment, and several Peers left the House.

A call for a division having been raised, a discussion arose, in which the Earl of Hardwicke, the Earl of Derby, and Lord Granville took part, and from which it appeared that no consent to an adjournment had been agreed to.

The Earl of DERBY hoped the House would not go to a division, as two noble and learned Lords, who intended to speak on the question had left in the belief that the adjournment was accorded to.

Earl GRANVILLE thought the two noble and learned Lords had paired before they left the House. If the noble Earl would give an assurance that any noble Lord had left the House in consequence of a belief that the adjournment was carried, he would at once agree to the adjournment.

The Earl of DERBY said more than one of his noble friends had left the House under that impression.

The motion for adjournment was carried, and their Lordships adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

Mr. KENNEDY gave notice of a motion for a "Select Committee to inquire into the means by which the time of the Imperial Parliament could be best economised, and the interests of the integral parts of these kingdoms may be best secured, and whether these objects may not be advantageously obtained by the appointment of separate Standing Committees, consisting of the representatives of Ireland and Scotland respectively, by whom measures referring to Ireland and Scotland exclusively should be discussed and reported upon, before legislating thereon in this House."

THE INCOME-TAX.—Mr. HEADLAM gave notice that on going into Committee of Ways and Means, he should move a resolution to the effect, that as long as the Income-tax remained part of the revenue of the country it should only be continued for a period of one year if applied to ordinary incomes in time of peace.

THE TEA-DUTIES.—Lord J. RUSSELL gave notice that in Committee of Ways and Means he should move an amendment to the resolution of the Chancellor of the Exchequer regulating the duty on tea, to the effect that the duty should be 1s. 4d. in the lb. in 1857, the same in 1858 and

1859, and that it should fall, in accordance with the proposition of the Chancellor of the Exchequer himself, to 1s. in 1860.

MASTERS AND WORKMEN.—Mr. PELLATT begged to ask the Attorney-General, whether it was the intention of her Majesty's Government to bring in a bill to consolidate the statute laws relating to masters and servants, and to masters and workmen?—The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said the statutes relating to masters and workmen had been consolidated by the Statute Law Commissioners, and a bill with that object was under consideration, and he believed would be introduced into Parliament; but he was not aware that the Government had other measures on the subject in contemplation.

THE REPRESENTATIVE SYSTEM.

Sir J. WALMSLEY, in rising to move for a Select Committee to consider and report upon the most practical means for lessening the existing inequalities in our representative system, and for extending to the unfranchised that share of political power to which they may be justly entitled, said there could be no question of the necessity of some readjustment of the electoral system. Science, commerce, manufactures, had all made great progress, while the increased intelligence of the people at large fitted them in the highest degree for the exercise of the suffrage. In a population of 23,000,000 souls, 5,500,000 being adult males, inhabiting 4,000,000 houses, we had only 1,000,000 electors, many of whom were prevented by intimidation and other means from giving their unbiased votes in the elections of members of Parliament. Was that a proper state of things, or one which ought long to exist? No portion of the country had made greater sacrifices to obtain their political rights than the unfranchised classes, and he was, therefore, of opinion that, although even household suffrage would not meet the whole of the evil, no measure short of that would be accepted. He could not doubt it was because the majority of the people were unrepresented that the balance of political power was placed in the hands of the few, and used to control the many. Twelve out of fifteen members of the Cabinet were either Peers or their own right or close connections of Peers, while no less than 236 hon. members in that House could boast of similar connections. The present system regarded neither qualification, property, nor the area of population in the adjustment of the number of members to be returned for different districts; and, as a proof, he might mention that 77 boroughs returned 124 members to the House with an agricultural population less than that contained in one large borough; and one half the members in the House were elected by 187,000 electors, representing property to the extent of £7,000,000, while the other half were elected by 800,000 electors, representing £77,000,000 worth of property. Twenty-four counties had 80 members more than they were entitled to in proportion to others, and 10 counties had 90 members less than they were entitled to; and, out of 29 towns and cities rising into importance, 20 were unrepresented. Out of 23,000,000 people in the United Kingdom there were only 1,000,000 electors (Hear). What opposition could be made to the present proposition except the old excuse that this was not the time for it? Not the time! Why, when would it be time? (Hear, hear.) That wretched excuse had been made for years, and would no longer satisfy the people.

Mr. HADFIELD seconded the motion, but observed that it would be better for the Government to take up the subject and bring forward some measure (Hear). There were only about 420,000 borough electors, and about 750,000 county electors—scarcely more than a million altogether.

Sir G. STRICKLAND opposed the motion, believing that the ostensible object concealed a dangerous infringement of the constitutional system.

Mr. A. STAFFORD said he like to know whether motions of this kind were to be repeated during the Session; whether a great constitutional question, of which this motion affected to be a part, was frequently to be raised, the noble Lord the member for London again finding himself in a minority? ("Hear," and a laugh.)

Mr. T. DUNCOMBE deeply regretted that it was not in his power to support the motion. By doing so he thought he should more injure the cause of reform than otherwise. He regretted that the noble Lord at the head of the Government had resisted the motion of the hon. member for East Surrey (Mr. L. King) the other night, but should consider the noble Lord right if he opposed the present motion. The language of the motion was mawkish (A laugh). It said that the people "might" be entitled to representation; whereas he (Mr. Duncombe) held that representation, as a right, ought to precede taxation. The question of the ballot ought to be discussed in the light of day, not shelved in a Committee up stairs, as if it were a gas bill.

Mr. WARREN: Only think, Sir, of sending the British Constitution to a Select Committee! (A laugh.) I am so tickled with the idea that I shall say no more (Increased laughter).

Mr. J. W. FOX contended that the very notion of representation implied that the question of its extension should from time to time be considered. Imperfect representation was the father of agitation, and it would be unwise to neglect its consideration.

Lord PALMERSTON: Sir, an objection often urged against those who propose a committee cannot be made to the proposal of my hon. friend (Sir J. Walmsley). It has often been objected to those who propose committees that when they get their committees they are unable to bring them to any concurrent opinion on the subjects submitted to them. If we are to judge from the success of my hon. friend in bringing the House to an almost unanimous opinion on the motion he has made (A laugh), that objection cannot be urged against him (Laughter), for he has succeeded on the present occasion in raising in a unanimity of opinion those most eager for general and comprehensive reform ("Hear, hear," and laughter)—those who are commonly known as bit-by-bit reformers, who are in favour of reform step by step—and those who are for more sweeping change; and I therefore submit that he might be content with the achievement of this evening (A laugh), and that he should not endeavour to produce a similar concurrence of opinion upon matters which any committee would have to consider in pursuance of his motion (Loud laughter). Without stating the particular objections I might feel to many of the abstract propositions of my hon. friend—without inquiring whether his proposal is founded on a right view of the principles of the British constitution—or how far we are here as the delegates of particular places, rather than as the delegates of the kingdom at large—without inquiring whether his principles, carried out to their full extent, would or would not lead us to the arrangement of electoral districts—without, in short, stating the different objections I might feel to much that he has said, I think the House will see the general concurrence of opinion against the motion of my hon. friend (Hear, hear). Whether he presses his motion to a division depends on his own discretion; but I think the House will be of opinion that the committee he proposes is not a convenient method for discussing the subject he proposes to bring under their consideration; not the appropriate method to be urged by any one who wishes to introduce changes in the representative system, and carry out his principles to their legitimate conclusion (Cheers).

Mr. L. KING thought the hon. member for Leicester had made out an excellent case for a bill, but not for a committee, and expressed a hope that the motion would not be pressed.

Mr. WARNER (amidst cries for a division) advised the hon. member for Leicester to re-introduce his previous bill on this subject. As the general election neared perhaps he would meet with a better reception than heretofore (Oh, oh).

Sir J. WALMSLEY, in reply, expressed his conviction that when the people made their demand in a louder voice, a bill, and not a committee, would be conceded. If he stood alone he would divide the House.

The House then divided—Ayes, 73; noes, 190; majority against the motion, 117.

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.—On the motion of Mr. BENTINCK a Select Committee was appointed to inquire into the causes of accidents on railways, and into the possibility of removing any such causes by further legislation.

THE FRANKLIN EXPEDITION.—Mr. NAPIER called attention to the communication which had taken place with the Government respecting the Franklin Expedition, and enforced the claim which was urged on the score of justice and humanity for a further and complete search, with the view of discovering and relieving any survivors of that expedition.—Captain SCOTLAND assigned reasons for believing that some relics of the crews of the *Resolute* and *Terror* might yet be discovered, and supported the proposal for another searching expedition.—Admiral WILCOTT entertained a different opinion. He was convinced that no chance remained of finding any survivors of the ill-fated expedition, and no good purpose could be served, either in the cause of humanity or scientific discovery, by sending new adventurers upon the track of the late Sir J. Franklin.—Sir C. WOOD also believed that any further search would prove entirely useless, and only risk the sacrifice of fresh victims, without affording the slightest prospect of a useful result. No further expeditions would, therefore, be sent out, not from any notion of economy—although £610,000 had been spent in the cause already—but simply because the Government were persuaded that no survivors would be found, and no just motive existed to imperil the lives of gallant men in new researches. After a few words from Mr. Milnes, Mr. Whiteside, Admiral Berkeley, and Sir C. Napier, the subject dropped.

SAVINGS-BANKS.—The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER moved for leave to bring in a bill to amend the laws relating to savings-banks, with the object of establishing banks for savings under Government security.—The motion was agreed to after some conversation, and leave was given to introduce the measure.

AN AUSTRIAN LOAN.—The rumours which have been for some time current in the financial world relative to a new loan by Austria, have now assumed a more definite form, and some details of the projected measures are even given. The amount it is said, will be 150,000,000 florins; the interest five per cent, and the capital reimbursed in 50 years, by periodical drawings. The titles will be for 250 florins, divisible into fifths. It is thought that they will be issued at 90. The same letter says:—"The departure of Count Appony for London, which had been fixed for the 19th, has been again postponed, in consequence of the illness of the Countess, his mother, who has reached a very advanced age."—Cologne Gazette.

THE DESERT ROUTE.

(Concluded from page 156.)

OUR friend the Turk has not proceeded many hundred yards on his homeward track before his charity is put to the test, and he falls in with a wearied old pilgrim, a native of Nazareth (engraved in last week's Number), one whose grey and venerable beard proclaims him but a sojourner for a few fleeting hours in this world of sorrow. The old man may well be proud of his citizenship. Abou Moossa proudly proclaims himself from Nazareth, but poverty had many years since scared him away from his beloved native village, and Beyrout has since been his home, and will eventually be his long resting-place. The old man has grown blind with age, but he loves of a fine warm evening to be led forth to the roadside, where, seated on his accustomed stone in the quiet solitude, his soul seeks, by prayer, communion with that great founder of his faith who condescended to become his fellow-townsmen, and with whom all Nazarenes may claim this high privilege up to this day. The Turk, though a bigoted Moslem, has a great veneration for the long, white, flowing beard of the old man of Nazareth (who, from his continually occupying one spot, is as well known in Beyrout as the Cadi or the Pacha himself is), and, descending from his horse, he places a small piece of money in the poor old fellow's hands, which he tells him is to buy a new pipe bowl with—for if we look narrowly into the picture we perceive that the pipe-stick alone remains.



KHAN NEAR NAHAR-EL-KELB, THE ANCIENT LYCUS, THREE LEAGUES FROM BEYROUT.



GIRL OF BEYROUT.

At a small distance from the Beyrout Gate, through which we pass in proceeding to Nahar-el-Kelb, or the Dog River, is a public fountain at which, at stated hours of the day, all the pretty Beyrout-born lasses regularly assemble, ostensibly for the purpose of carrying home water, in reality to have a little chat about the shape and price of the new-fashioned nose-rings, and other like Syrian and Egyptian ornaments. The young lady who is reclining against the wall of the fountain, her water-pot resting on a stone against which she herself leans, is the daughter of a shopkeeper at Beyrout, of the Greek faith; she has many aspirants to her hand, both on account of her beauty and her money, and is probably turning over in her mind which to choose. Syrian ladies, let them be ever so wealthy, fetch and carry water till they get married, and even after marriage they perform many menial indoor offices. The girl in the picture is a fair specimen of the general run of Beyrout beauty; her features and hands are good, and so are her feet, though ensconced in those unseemly yellow shoes trimmed with red bows; she wears stockings, which is a certain indication at Beyrout of being well to do in the world; her dress is a chequered-pattern Damascus silk, and the shawl round her waist is of Tripoli manufacture. A thin white muslin cloth is thrown over her cap and handkerchief, in the arrangement of which Beyrout belles expend no little time; this muslin serves to envelop her face on the approach of any native gentleman, according to long-established usage; but she will let you or me approach, nothing fearing, and even offer us half of the apple that

is concealed in the wide folds of her shawl; because, even in Beyrout, they know how to respect English gallantry and conduct. The approach of our friend the Turk scares her away, and as we have nothing more to see so attractive by the wayside, and the night is setting in dark, we will just peep in at the Khan by the wayside, near Maher-el-Kelb, and then get on board our boat and set sail for Latakia.

The Khan, as you perceive, is a wretched old affair, damp, and full of rubbish. Here, at a temporary charcoal stove, a poor coffeee is eternally making coffee for casual droppers-in; while his boy, in what was once a white skullcap, is handing the small cups to and from the guests. Two recent arrivals are seen partaking of this luxury. The horse is probably a joint-stock affair; the property of both, on which they perform their journeys alternately—the distinguishing sign of their intentions being the unloosening the shoes from the soles of their feet—a sure indication that the one means to walk and wishes the other to mount; as no peasant in Syria would ever be guilty of wearing his boots when on a journey. A Cyprus hen, and her newly-fledged chickens, are busily running to and fro in search of grubs; and the Arab Reis stalks in to tell us that wind and tide are favourable.

We have got to Latakia, how or when does not much signify. Here we are, in the main street, and a very extraordinary-looking place it is, too, if one were to judge by the badly-plastered walls and worse-shaped doorways. Not much is to be seen without; but, on the contrary, the interior of some of the houses in this street—for instance, that very identical one near the black girl that is carrying the bag of wheat—have marble pavements, and princely apartments to boot. All is a scene of dilapidation in the streets. The earthquake of 1822 has left very many signs of its mighty strength and duration. The two handsomely-carved pillars on the right-hand side are what once constituted a magnificent mosque. Opposite to it, and, indeed, all the way down the streets, are pieces of timber carelessly run across from roof to roof, on which bits of old carpets and tattered old mats are thrown to exclude the fierce mid-day heat. At every twenty paces there is a coffee-shop, and loiterers lazily linger in this pestiferous neighbourhood, smoking their pipes, and inhaling the not very odiferous smells from the numerous rubbish-heaps in the immediate vicinity. The minaret in the distance is on the outskirts of the town, and there the scenery is as picturesque and the air as pure as they are the reverse in this narrow and filthy thoroughfare.

STRANGERS' HOME FOR ASIATICS, AFRICANS, AND SOUTH SEA ISLANDERS.

YESTERDAY week the Chairman of the Court of Directors of the East India Company, Colonel Sykes, accompanied by Captain Eastwick, paid an official visit for the inspection of this new Asylum; and ex-

pressed their entire satisfaction with the completeness of the arrangements, and perfect adaptation for the purposes for which it has been erected.

The first stone of this institution (which is situated in the West India Dock-road, Limehouse) was laid by his Royal Highness Prince Albert on the 31st of May last, an Engraving of which ceremony appeared in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS of the 14th of June, 1856. Her Majesty and Prince Albert have taken a lively interest in the welfare of this institution, and have contributed liberally in aid of its funds.

The building is now finished, but the institution cannot be opened for want of funds. It is capable of accommodating 230 inmates, with apartments for superintendent, hospital, registry, shipping and secretary's offices, and, including lighting, warming, hot and cold baths and lavatories, has cost £8550, besides £1250 for the freehold of the site, and £270 for the remainder of the lease. The expenses of furniture, and of sundry necessary charges preparative to the opening of the Home, will amount altogether to £2000; so that the total cost will be £12,000. Towards this amount £6400 has been contributed.

The object of the institution is to offer to Indian sailors and other Orientals who come to England a comfortable



LATAKIA.

they will have no other necessary outlay but to furnish themselves with clothing, the means of doing which on the most reasonable

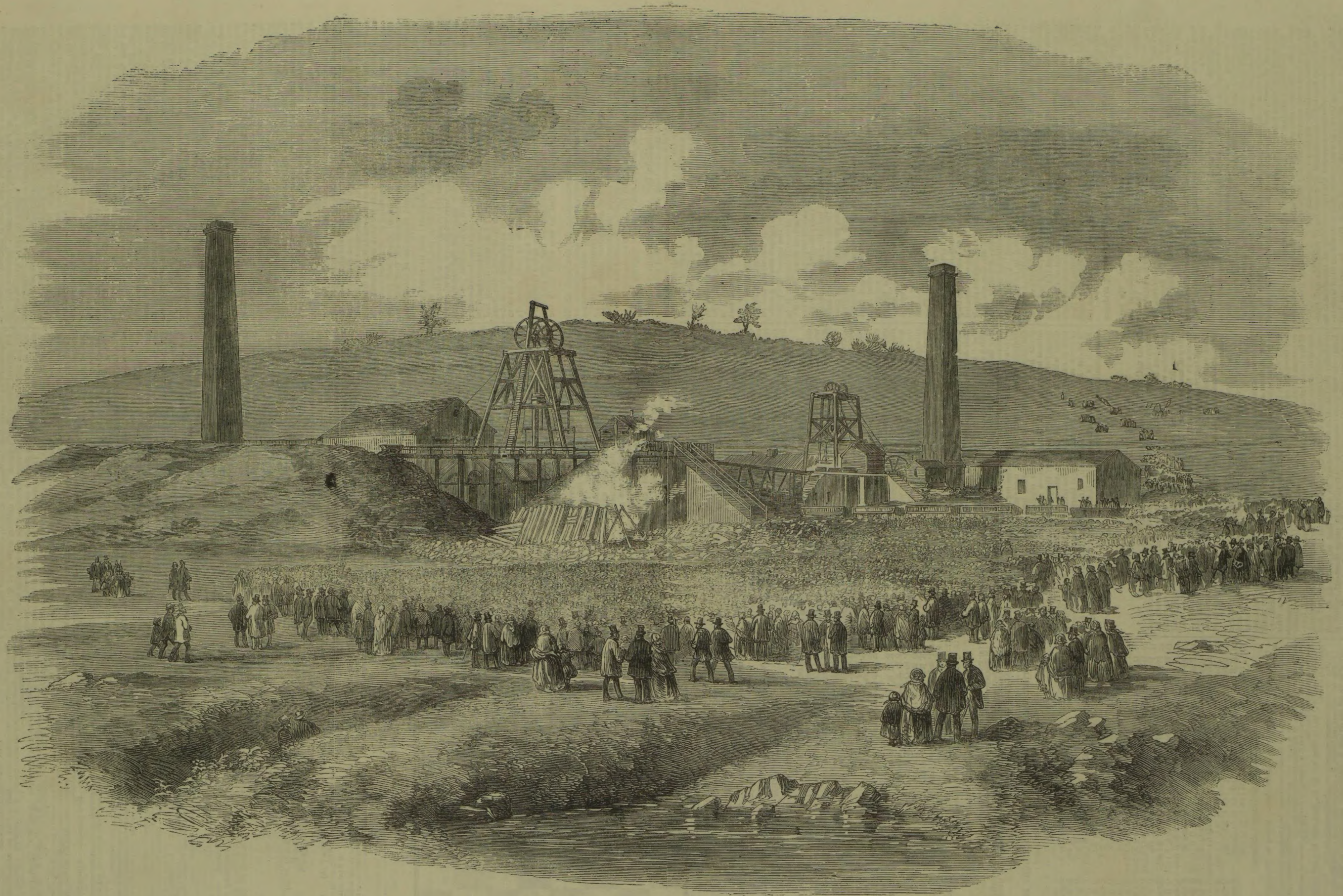
terms will be also provided, by the establishment of a storeroom at the Home. In addition to these benefits, arrangements will be made to take charge of their money and other property, when desired; to make remittances to their families and friends; to render them advice, and afford them information; to protect them from imposition; to procure them employment in vessels; to present to all who can read, and desire it, a copy of the Holy Scriptures in their own language; and to provide means for instructing those who are willing to be taught in the truths of the Gospel, and in the English language.

The president of this establishment is Sir E. N. Buxton, Bart.; and the honorary secretaries are Lieut.-Colonel Hughes and Major Tudor Lavie.

Letters from several influential Indian gentlemen have been received, thanking the directors for the efforts they are making for the welfare of their countrymen who are brought to England; and when it is taken into consideration that, in the different sea-ports of India, in Ceylon, China, and Australia, comfortable homes for British seamen and others have been provided by parties residing on the spot, and in some cases assisted by the contributions of the natives, it is high time that such an institution as the Strangers' Home should be established in England, frequented as our ports have been for many years past by thousands of Asiatics and other natives of the East, of Africa, and of the Islands of the South Pacific.



"THE STRANGERS' HOME," WEST INDIA DOCK ROAD, LIMEHOUSE.



LUNDHILL COLLIERY, BARNSLEY, THE SCENE OF THE RECENT EXPLOSION.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

COALPIT EXPLOSION AT LUND-HILL.

In our latest edition last week we gave a brief notice of the explosion, attended with great loss of life, which took place at noon on Thursday, at the Lund-hill Colliery, near Wombwell, on the South Yorkshire Railway. The pit, which is about 220 yards deep, belongs to Taylor and Co., and is worked by separate shifts of men night and day. The day-workers (about 200 altogether) descended at six o'clock in the morning. At twelve o'clock twenty-two of them, who reside near the pit, came up to dinner, the rest remaining to partake of that meal in the pit. Shortly afterwards a fearful explosion occurred, which shook the ground for a great distance around, and the frame in which the corves descend was blown up the shaft and lodged in the gearing above the pit mouth. Numbers of men from neighbouring collieries flocked to render assistance, and on Thursday evening nineteen men had been drawn up alive. The interior of the pit was set on fire by the explosion, and the flames spread with such rapidity as to cut off all chance of reaching that part of the pit where the rest of the men (about 170) were supposed to be. Some idea of the fearful nature of the fire may be gathered when we state that the flames ascending the air-shaft, 220 yards deep, reached more than twenty yards above the top, illuminating the country for a distance around. Telegraphic messages were sent to Sheffield for a number of fire-engines, some of which soon arrived. The overlooker states that when he went round the pit before the day-men descended on Thursday morning all was then perfectly safe. The fire began to blaze from the air-shaft about four o'clock, and sent up an immense number of sparks and pieces of burning wood, which had a most terrible appearance. Several of the miners taken out alive were dangerously injured. One of them died on Saturday morning.

Between half-past four and five o'clock on Thursday afternoon a consultation was held between Mr. Coe, steward of Messrs. Taylor and Co., and some of the leading mineral-viewers of the neighbourhood, as to making an attempt to explore the main road as far as possible. The general opinion was that imminent danger awaited those who might make the effort, while some thought there was a possibility of the risk not being great. But each stood there ready for the attempt; each volunteered, calmly and after consideration, to face a danger greater than that of most battle-fields. When the preparations had been completed Mr. Coe got into the cage, accompanied by Mr. Webster, of the Wombwell Main Colliery, and Mr. Maddison, of the Hoyland and Elsecar pits. They got to the bottom, and made their way to the south for 300 yards, doing all that was possible to make good the doors and stoppings that had been blown out, and thus partially to restore the ventilation.

They spent more than an hour and a half continuously in the burning mine. Their prolonged absence caused the greatest anxiety as to their fate; and the fears were much heightened by what occurred not long before the watched-for signal from below was heard. For about that time the flames shot high up above the "cupola;" bricks and shattered timbers were scattered far and near; the lurid glare spread over miles of country; and a broad, well-defined streak of soot and ashes was deposited across several of the adjoining fields, while the bank was covered with coal and wood-ashes. Those below knew nothing of what had occurred; those above attributed it to a second explosion, which had probably done immense damage to the works. There is no doubt that what we have described was coincident with the rapid extension of the flames, which placed the searchers in so much danger.

Another long and anxious consultation was held; and its result was a determination to cover with boards and puddling the mouths of the upcast and pumping shafts. At this time the level ground and the steep slope between Wombwell and the colliery were crowded; and when the determination became known it naturally staggered the hopeful and appealed to silence those who had scarcely dared to hope that yet many human beings might be got up alive. That the measure showed on the part of the proprietors, viewers, &c., a conviction that no hope could be entertained that any one below was alive, is true; but, even if such had not been their conviction, they believed that such a step was the most prudent; for it was felt that no search could be attempted while the fire raged, and that no one could get through the fire to the shaft, so as to escape; that nothing could be done until the fire was at least checked; and that it could not be checked until the ingress of air was prevented. The effect of stopping up the two shafts was soon seen in the disappearance of flames from the cupola; but the smoke showed that the coal was still smouldering most extensively, and that no one could reach the bottom alive.

The proprietors of the pit felt that in permitting the downcast shafts to be closed they incurred a most grave responsibility, and, therefore, on Friday morning they took the opinion of a number of colliery-viewers and other gentlemen, whom they invited from the surrounding district, upon the subject. That opinion was one of unanimous approval. In order to set themselves right with the public the proprietors and the gentlemen by whom that course had been advised again called the colliery-viewers and other gentlemen together, and invited the representatives of the press to be present at the meeting and hear the opinions on the subject.

The Chairman (Mr. J. Woodhouse Day, an eminent colliery-viewer), in referring to the closing of the downcast shafts, observed that such a measure was calculated to excite public feeling, considering that a great number of bodies were left in the pit; but it was the only hope. The accident occurred at half-past twelve o'clock, so that a period of seven hours elapsed before the pit was closed. Another resolution was that Messrs. Webster, Coe, and Maddison should be deputed to carry out the views of the committee. The proprietors of the colliery were called in, and were informed of what had been done, and were fully satisfied. The opinion of Mr. Day was that practical men should carry out the views of the committee, rather than that the responsibility should rest upon the owners of the pit.

Mr. Webster gave an account of the result of his visit to the mine. On getting to the bottom of the shaft they found that the lower portion of the slides and broadgates were entirely blown up and destroyed, and on proceeding further they found the coal around the furnace was in a complete state of ignition. The coal and woodwork in the upcast shaft had taken fire, and the flames were raging furiously. He could compare it to nothing but a stream of molten metal being poured down the shaft. They proceeded about 200 or 250 yards along the south level, and found the whole of the furnace down, and the coal on fire. They proceeded up the levels and broadgates as far as they dared to venture, until they came in contact with the foul air, and were obliged to retreat. They returned to the shaft, and then made an examination of the north level, along which they proceeded for a distance of 400 yards, up to the fourth broadgate. During the investigation they found many dead bodies, and the men who accompanied them brought the remains to the shaft. One man was found dead close to the bottom of the shaft; further on they found ten bodies in a mass. Not far from the furnace it was supposed that a large number of bodies were lying, as the men generally congregated near the fire at dinner-time. The furnace was blown down, and the stables (containing six horses) were on fire. When they got near the upcast shaft they saw immense masses of coal and rock falling down. The shaft was like a furnace. The difference in the state of the fire when he entered the pit and when he left it was very great. They were in the pit above two hours. The stoppages and brattices between the two shafts were completely blown away; and therefore, except in the level, the pit was dead—i.e., full of bad air. They would have succeeded in putting up stoppages, but the fire increased to such an extent that they were obliged to retreat. They were so placed that if they had not retreated they would have been excluded from the air and suffocated, because the air was "backing" direct from one shaft to the other. He, Mr. Coe, and Mr. Maddison ascended the shaft, and held a consultation; but their companions ascended in haste, saying that it was impossible for any one to remain down any longer. Of course they then considered it their duty to acquaint the owners with the position of the mine, and to state that it was imperative to close the shafts, as there was no probability of saving any more lives, and that it was the only chance to render the pit in a condition fit for working in again. He consulted with the men who had gone down with them. They were called in separately, and asked if they were of opinion that it was impossible to get any more bodies out of the mine. They concurred with them, and they acted upon their resolution and their own by covering over the tops of the pits. In a few minutes after they left the mine the cupola-shaft was filled with fire, which reached fifty yards above the summit, and the sparks from that body of flame ascended 100 yards higher.

Mr. Morton (Government Inspector): This was very strong evidence that you had nearly remained too long.

Mr. Maddison confirmed the statements of Mr. Webster. He particularly mentioned the immense difference they found in the state of the flames from the time they first saw them until they left the pit. The fire was really awful when they came back. When they passed the stables at first they could go up to the fire and kick the embers with their feet, but when they came back they durst not approach the place; the flames extended from one end to the other. They would have been killed if they had not retreated at the time they did.

Mr. Bartholomew: It would be satisfactory to the public to be assured that the pit was not closed until there remained no chance of saving any more lives.

Mr. Morton expressed his approval of a proposal which had been made to force carbonic acid gas into the pit with a view to extinguish the fire yet burning. If the pits had not been closed they would not have been able to get into them again for many months; the probability was that the shafts would have closed themselves, and the loss of the whole colliery would have been imminent. There could not be two opinions that when the shafts were closed there was not a living man in the pit. He supposed, of course, that the search was not abandoned until all hopes of recovering any bodies were extinguished.

Mr. Webster: Certainly not. I did not leave that mine until every hope was gone. The men who accompanied us begged us to return, but we did not come back until we were positively frightened for our own lives. If we had remained longer we should have been lost.

On Friday evening it was decided by a number of scientific and practical gentlemen, who have assumed the responsibility of the steps to be taken for restoring the pit to a safe state, that it should be filled with inflammable gas. Arrangements were at once made to carry out this decision; but it was afterwards determined to delay the experiment until

the committee had consulted Mr. Nicholas Wood, an eminent colliery-viewer from the neighbourhood of Durham.

On Saturday evening another consultation was held at the offices of the proprietors, by Messrs. Day, N. Wood, C. Morton, Government Inspector, Elliott, and other colliery-owners. The decision arrived at was not to try the experiment of introducing inflammable gas into the mine, but only to introduce steam and allow a considerable quantity of water to accumulate in the workings. This state of things was to continue until Wednesday next, when it was understood that Mr. Wood and the other members of the managing committee would again meet and consider what further steps might be necessary.

Pending the decision of the conference of scientific men the measures recommended by them on Saturday were actively carried out in the early part of the week, under the superintendence of Mr. Webster and Mr. Maddison. The effect of those measures in subduing the fire is evident from the experiments which have been made.

Fresh anecdotes of painful interest keep coming to light in connection with this unfortunate affair. The following scene was witnessed by one of the searching party who explored the pit immediately after the explosion. A man named Joseph Simmonds was found, and the party seized hold of him to put him in the chair. Suddenly, however, he broke away from them, and rushed towards one of the workings. He was caught a second time, and being probably in a state of delirium from the gas he had inhaled, struggled with superhuman strength, and made off into a part of the working where it was not safe to follow him. He is now buried in the pit.

It is intended to erect a shed capacious enough to contain the whole number, and as the bodies are brought up, they will be placed in coffins, which are in course of preparation, and deposited in this structure. To each of them will be attached a ticket, containing (if the deceased be identified) his name, otherwise a number according to the order in which it is brought up. Every effort has been made by the proprietors to ascertain the names of all in the pit. The result of the inquiries which have been made is that 182 had perished; and even this number will probably be increased upon subsequent inquiry.

The efforts in aid of the survivors will no doubt become general throughout the country. Subscriptions have been received by the proprietors from several persons living in distant places. Proceedings are being taken for organising public subscriptions in Sheffield and Manchester.

The Leeds Mercury of Tuesday last remarks that "the Barnsley coal district has been the scene of some of the most appalling accidents that can be found on record. To go back to a comparatively recent date, we find that no fewer than fourteen accidents have occurred, by which an aggregate of between four and five hundred lives have been sacrificed, in addition to numerous other accidents of a minor character. A recapitulation of some of the principal will, at the present time, be read with interest:—On July 4th, 1838, twenty-six individuals lost their lives in a colliery at Silkstone, near Barnsley, by the irruption of a quantity of water into the workings. On the 21st of November, 1841, fifteen men and boys were killed by an explosion at the Mount Osborne Colliery, which is situated within half a mile of the town of Barnsley; and, being the first serious explosion of fire-damp that had occurred in the neighbourhood, it excited a great deal of interest. In 1842 two accidents occurred at Hopwood's Colliery, at Barnsley, by which five lives were lost. At the Oaks Colliery, on the 11th of June, 1845, three men were killed. On the 29th January, 1847, six lives were sacrificed through an accident in the Darley Main Colliery, situated within two miles of Barnsley—a colliery which afterwards attained some degree of notoriety by an explosion which was attended with great loss of life. On the 27th of March, in the same year, seventy-three men and boys, working in the Oaks pit, about a mile from Barnsley, met with almost instant death from an explosion of fire-damp, the force of which was so terrific that stones were projected out of the shaft (which was nearly three hundred yards deep) into the air to the height of forty or fifty yards. On that occasion the explosion originated, according to the evidence, in an old break or abandoned working. The machinery of the pit was very considerably damaged, and many of the bodies were not recovered until some days after the explosion, although in the first instance a large proportion of the unfortunate workmen were brought out alive. On that occasion the whole of the men killed had resided in Barnsley and the immediate vicinity, and the greatest gloom pervaded the town. About £1000 was raised for the relief of the survivors and sufferers by a general subscription, and the fullest investigation was made into the cause of the accident. In August of the same year two men were killed by an accident at the Darley-main pit. In less than two years another explosion of an appalling character followed at the Darley-main Colliery, by which seventy-five lives were lost, which created a great sensation throughout the kingdom. In this instance there was an absence of that external shock by which explosions are generally attended. Notwithstanding the absence of noise, the workmen about the pit-hill at once became aware, from the issuing of blue smoke, accompanied by a strong smell of sulphur, that the pit had fired; and, as the working machinery in this instance was fortunately uninjured, immediate steps were taken to rescue the sufferers, and during that and the following day the whole of the bodies were recovered. On the 20th July, 1841, three men were killed by an accident at the Worsbro'-park Colliery. On the 7th June, 1851, three men lost their lives at the Darley-main Colliery. On the 26th August, 1854, an accident occurred at the Lund-hill pit, the scene of the late explosion, by which five men were killed. The shafts were only then in process of sinking, and the sinkers, after having been out a day or two, incautiously descended the shaft, when a quantity of foul air ignited, which had accumulated, and an explosion of a most terrific character followed. On this occasion such was the violence of the report that it was heard at a distance of seven miles. A person who was working at the mouth of the shaft was blown into the air to an altitude of about 150 feet. Another explosion took place on the 21st Dec., 1852, at one of Earl Fitzwilliam's collieries at Elsecar, by which nine lives were lost; and shortly before that the explosion at Warrenton had occurred, by which fifty-two human beings were sent into eternity."

The painful interest excited by this awful calamity has induced us to dispatch to the scene of its occurrence an Artist to sketch the locality, which we engrave this week, and hereafter we shall illustrate the accident more in detail. Our Correspondent writes from

BARNSELY, Sunday evening. Every train to-day has brought a large number of "excursionists," who by their conduct seemed bound to a fair or country fête rather than visitors to the scene of a frightful calamity. Each road leading to the pit was covered with throngs of people, dotting the highway for miles in every direction; and the immediate neighbourhood of the works could only be compared to Greenwich-hill on a summer Sunday. At two o'clock there were from 10,000 to 15,000 persons on the spot; and few indeed were those who appeared to think they were standing immediately over the bodies of nearly 200 human beings, hurried without a minute's notice into eternity. In the dense crowd before them the loud laugh and jest were heard incessantly. It is true there was little to indicate what had taken place beyond a heap of rubbish and boards a few feet high over the cupola shaft, from which a white smoke was issuing in small quantity; but the larger part of the crowd were neighbouring pitmen, pitmen's wives, and children; and it is difficult to understand the callousness of their conduct, contrasted with that of a few grouped round an individual who was "improving the occasion," their voices raised occasionally in hymns which swelled and murmured over the confused babel with an effect that may be imagined, but not described. There was only one spot which spoke of death—the interior of the building over the downcast shaft, black and grim with coal-dust; a grey light stealing through the timbers from the roof, and lighting it mysteriously; made more sad by a few bright spots of sunbeam, which danced upon the walls here and there; while a broader gleam hung upon the now useless cradle in which the unfortunate miners had made their last descent—a shovel here, a bucket there—and nought of life, but the hissing of the steam as it escaped from the pipe down which it was forced through the covering of the shaft, for the purpose of extinguishing the fire. At the bottom of this shaft lay the bodies of eight or ten poor fellows, dragged there by those who had gone down to assist Mr. Coe, Mr. Maddison, Mr. Webster, Mr. Utley, and Mr. Ellison in their dangerous search. It seemed only in this deserted spot that calamity and death were palpable.

THE TINGEWICK FOSSILS.

In our notice of the curious fossils which were found at Tingewick, Bucks (engraved in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS for Jan. 24), we stated that they had been submitted to the examination of competent persons to determine whether they were concretions of chalk, or whether they had not been formed round some marine plants as a nucleus—chalk itself being of marine origin. This has been determined by a gentleman well known in the microscopic world, and who possesses one of the best of Ross's instruments, with all the achromatic powers; but the examinations were made chiefly with the aid of one-sixth of an inch, and by a practised hand and eye for such delicate observations. His report is as follows:—

"I boiled pieces for some hours in hydrochloric acid, and then in nitric acid, and afterwards in distilled water, washing the sediment well, and examining it. I am satisfied the fossils are organic and marine. I have got some diatoms from them, which are most beautiful, and, to me, new. Some of them are identical with the shells found in guano. The chalk must have congregated round fungi, as I have got one most extraordinary specimen from them: it has not only some masses of cellular tissue, with the inner and outer investments clearly marked, but a quantity of spores so perfect as to astonish me; besides there is a fragment of an insect of the beetle tribe. Of shells the clearest specimens are beautiful fragments of *coscinodiscus*, with the hexagonal perforations and depressions, and several fragments of *navicula*. I do not find the *foraminifera* I find in chalk; but the strize on some are so small that my 1-6th of an inch Ross—the best glass I ever had—is required to make them out, which it does beautifully by oblique light from a 'Gillet's' condenser. The dots are at least six to every 1-6000 of an inch."

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

PROBLEM No. 677.—As we apprehended, the diagram of this position in *La Regence* was incorrect. The following is the actual situation of the men in the composition of the author Mr. L. Groedemange:—

White: K at his Kt 4th, B at K R 4th and K B 7th, Kt at K B 5th, P at Q 3rd. Black: K at his 4th, Ks at Q R sq and Q R 4th; P's at K R 7th, K Kt 2nd, and Q Kt 7th. White to play, and mate in five moves.

RUSTIC, D. D., and others.—Problem No. 678 has proved a *cruel* of the first magnitude to our usually sharp-eyed correspondents. We have received scores of letters announcing an easy mate in two moves, the writer in every instance overlooking the fact that the *White King* was in check, and the mate, therefore, a nullity.

A. Z. B. Y.—Extremely good; quite first-rate. Have you no more of the same sample? They would be very acceptable.

P. R. S.—By this time you have probably discovered your mistake concerning Mr. Riss' splendid composition, No. 678. As to your own Problem we can say nothing complimentary: it is much too easy even for tyros.

G. M., Aberdeen.—Clever, although not quite up to your usual standard.

T. P., Glasgow.—No. The match was never played, the foreigner declining the contest.

H. T. W.—The Solution was correct; but, as your signature was unintelligible, it could not be inserted. For the benefit of other correspondents, we may add that this is a very ordinary occurrence.

J. De R.—The counter Evans' Gambit has never been properly analyzed.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 678, by Les Officiers du Yalieu à vapeur "l'Arcole," S. G., F. R. Crampton, John De Rixton, W. C. H. P., D. D., Oxford; H. F. N.; C. W., Market Weighton, L. Cunliffe, Delta, Mureaux, are correct.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 679, by W. Baker, R. D. B., X. Y. Z., Philippo, Charles, Alpha, M. D., John De Rixton, G. H. M., Derevon, Ernest, Melpomene, Omega, W. W., Granger, Felix, Peter, Czar, G. T. W., M. P., A. Member, sec., Driscoll, F. G. L., T. Addison, Peter Simple, Old Gregory, T. W. N., are correct. All others are wrong.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 677.

WHITE. BLACK.
1. K to Kt 5th P to K R 8th, becoming a Kt (best)
2. B to K sq P to Q Kt 8th, becoming a Kt (best)
3. B to Q Kt 4th Kt to Q B 4th, or Q Kt 2nd (best)
4. B to K B 8th—and mates next move.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 678.

WHITE. BLACK.
1. Kt takes K P Q takes Q, or (a)
2. R to K 6th B takes R
3. Kt to Q B 5th (dis ch) K to his 4th
4. Kt to Q 3rd—Mate.

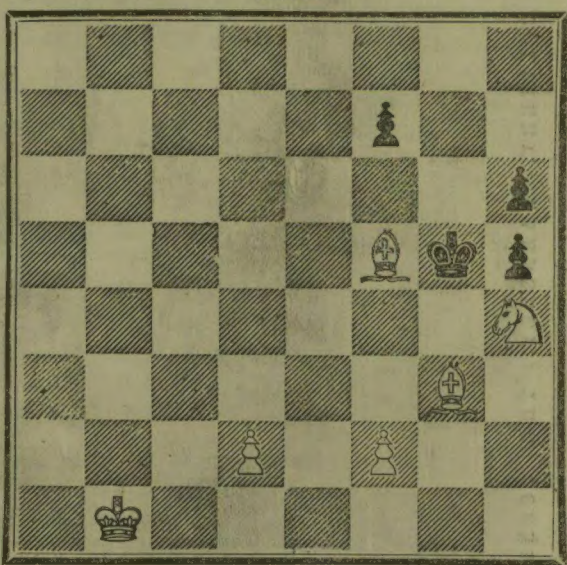
(a) 1. R to K 6th (dis ch) P takes Kt (dis ch) * 3. R from B 4th takes P (ch) K to Q 4th
2. Q takes Q 4. B to Q B 4th—Mate.
* 1. Q takes Q 2. R to K 6th Q R takes B at K B sq

(If Black should play Q to K B 3rd, or to K 4th, or K Kt 4th, or should take the Bishop K Kt sq, with the other Rook, White plays Kt to Q B 3rd, dis ch, and mates next move.
3. Kt to Q B 5th (dis ch) R takes R 4. B takes B—Mate.

PROBLEM No. 680.

By W. GRIMSHAW.

BLACK.



WHITE.
White to play, and mate in five moves.

CHESS IN THE METROPOLIS.

Continuation of the games between Mr. STAUNTON and the Amateur from Mexico.

GAME IN WHICH MR. S. GIVES THE ODDS OF THE KNIGHT.

(Remove Black's Q Kt from the board.)

(Sicilian Opening.)

[BLACK (Mr. S.)	WHITE (Mr. W.)	[BLACK (Mr. S.)	WHITE (Mr. W.)
1. P to K 4th	P to Q 4th	19. K B to Kt 5th	Q Kt takes Q B (ch)
2. K Kt to K B 3rd	Q Kt to K B 3rd	20. Q takes Q Kt	Kt takes K B P (a)
3. K B to Q B 4th	P to K 3rd	21. K R to Q B sq (b)	Q to Kt 3rd
4. P to Q B 3rd	K Kt to K B 3rd	22. Q R takes B	Q R takes R
5. P to K 5th	K Kt to his 5th	23. R to Q B 5th (ch)	B to Q sq
6. Q to K 2nd	Q to Q B 2nd	24. B takes R	K to K 2nd
7. P to Q 4th	P takes P	25. B to K 2nd	Kt to K 4th
8. P takes P	P to Q 4th	26. B to Q 3rd	P to K B 4th (c)
9. K B to Kt 3rd	K B to Q Kt 5th (ch)	27. P takes P in	Kt takes P
10. K to B sq	P to Q R 4th	28. Kt to K 5th	P to K R 3rd
11. P to K Kt 3rd	P to Q Kt 4th	29. R to Q B 2nd (d)	R to Kt sq
12. P to Q R 3rd	K B to K 2nd	30. B to K R 7th	P to K Kt 4th
13. Q B to K B 4th	P to K R 5th	31. Q takes Kt (ch)	K takes Q
14. K B to Q B 2nd	P to Q Kt 5th	32. Kt to Q 7th (ch)	K to Kt 2nd
15. P takes P	Q Kt takes Q Kt P	33. Kt takes Q	K takes B
16. Btks Q R P (ch)	K to B sq	34. Kt to Q 7th	
17. K to Kt 2nd	Q B to Q R 3rd		
18. Q to Q 2nd	Q Kt to Q 6th		

And Black won the game.

(a) Probably his best move. A piece must be lost, play as he could.
(b) This is preferable to taking the Kt at once.
(c) Taking the Q Kt Pawn would have been playing Black's game, by giving him time.
(d) Checking with the Kt at K Kt 5th would have been of little use, as White in reply could move his King to Q 2nd, attacking the Rook.

ANOTHER GAME IN WHICH THE QUEEN'S KNIGHT IS GIVEN.

(Remove Black's Q Kt from the board.)

(Centre Gambit.)

[BLACK (Mr. S.)	WHITE (Mr. W.)	[BLACK (Mr. S.)	WHITE (Mr. W.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	23. P to Q R 4th	K R to K 2nd
2. P to Q 4th	P takes P	24. P to Q R 5th	B to Q Kt 4th
3. K Kt to K B 3rd	P to Q B 4th	25. P to Q Kt 4th (b)	B takes P
4. K B to Q B 4th	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	26. B takes Kt	Q R takes B
5. Castles	K B to Q 3rd	27. Q to her 3rd	B takes B
6. K Kt to Kt 5th	K Kt to K R 3rd	28. Q takes B	Q R to Q B 5th
7. K R to K sq	K B to K 4th (a)	29. Q to Q 3rd	Q to Q B 3rd
8. P to K B 4th	K B to Q B 2nd	30. Q R to Q Kt sq	K R to K sq
9. Q to K R 5th	Q to K 2nd	31. Q R to Q Kt 2nd	Kt to K B 2nd
10. B to Q 2nd	Castles	32. K R to Q Kt 2nd	P to K R 3rd
11. P to Q R 3rd	P to Q 3rd	33. P to K 5th	Q P takes P
12. P to K R 3rd	Q B to K 3rd	34. Q to Kt 6th	Kt to Q 3rd
13. K B to Q 3rd	P to Q B 5th	35. Q R to Q Kt 5th	Q R takes Q B P
14. K B to K 2nd	P to K B 3rd	36. Rtks K R (ch)	Q takes R (d)
15. Kt takes B	Q takes Kt	37. Q takes R	P to K 5th
16. P to Q Kt 3rd	P to Q Kt 4th (b)	38. Q to Q B 7th (e)	P to K 3rd
17. Q takes Q Kt P	Q to K sq	39. Qtks Q R P (f)	P to Q 6th
18. K B takes P (ch)	K to R sq	40. Q to Q Kt 5th (ch)	K to R 2nd (g)
19. Q to Q Kt 7th	B to Q Kt 3rd	41. R to Q Kt 6th	Q to Q B 5th (ch)
20. K to R sq	Q R to Q B sq	42. Q takes Kt	Q to Q 5th
21. K B to Q Kt 5th	K R to K B 2nd	43. K to R 2nd	P to Q 7th
22. Q to Q R 6th	Q R to Q B 2nd		

And White has no longer a defence.

(a) Better to have played the Q Kt to this square. Moving the Bishop thus was mere loss of time.
(b) He forgot the position of the adverse Queen. Had he taken the two Pawns, however, his Queen must have been a good deal harassed by the enemy's Rooks; so the sacrifice of this Pawn was, perhaps, as good a move as he could find.
(c) This looks imprudent; but it is observable that Black's situation compels him to maintain the attack at all hazards.
(d) His best play. Had he taken with the Kt, Black must have won easily by moving his Rook to Q Kt 8th.
(e) Now the game becomes extremely critical and interesting.
(f) This will be found, we believe, the only possible move to save the day.
(g) If he played the Kt to K sq, Black would have marched on with his Q R Pawn; if, on the other hand, he had played him to Q B sq, then Black would have replied with R to Q B sq—in either case assured of victory.

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